

Evaluation of Economic Condition of
Assignees of Ceiling Land
(Haryana, Karnataka and West Bengal)

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Sponsored by

The Ministry of Agriculture
Department of Rural Development
Government of India
New Delhi

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In course of completion of this study we received immense help and cooperation from different individuals and administrative authorities. We shall be failing in our duties if we do not record our appreciation and gratefulness to them.

First of all, we would like to record our appreciation to the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Rural Development, Government of India, New Delhi for sponsoring the study and providing the generous grant. We are specially thankful to Shri K.B. Saxena, Joint Secretary(LR), Department of Rural Development, Shri S. Bhale Rao and Shri N.D. Maheshwari, Deputy Secretaries(LR), Department of Rural Development for their constant help, cooperation and guidance.

We are also indebted to the officials, both at secretariat and field level, of three states i.e., Haryana, Karnataka and West Bengal for their cooperation and providing facilities during the course of field study.

Thanks are also due to the beneficiaries of surplus ceiling land for kindly sparing their valuable time for interview purposes to the Research Team.

Words fail us to express our gratitude and sincere thanks to our Former Director Shri S. Ramanathan, IAS(Retd.) and present Director Shri P.K. Umashankar, IAS, for their able

guidance and constant encouragement. We are equally thankful to Shri Brij Bhushan Khare, Registrar, Indian Institute of Public Administration for providing suitable administrative and secretarial facilities.

The Project Director finds words inadequate to express his sincere thanks to his Research Team - Dr. J. Guha Roy, Lecturer, IIPA, Dr.(Mrs.) Kushal Kaushik, Project Lecturer, Dr.(Mrs.) Alka Arya, Project Associate and Shri Amit Vardan field investigator. But for their untiring labour this work would not have been completed within the time schedule.

We shall be failing in our duties if we do not record our appreciation for Miss Shyam Bala, Project Typist and Shri J.N.Chawla who provided typing assistance with all sincerity and keen interest.

S.N.Mishra
Project Director

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CHAPTER-I

INTRODUCTION

The concept of land reform has been in use since the days of Solon to the present time when it has evoked a renewed worldwide interest under the aegis of the United Nations. The Encyclopaedia Britannica informs us:

Renewed emphasis on land reforms under the initiative of the United Nations at mid 20th Century may have observed the fact that such reforms have been one of the dominant themes of history, and from antiquity, the cause of many political and military conflicts. In the seventh century B.C. Solon introduced limitations on the amount of land that could be held by an individual Athenian.¹

The scope and coverage of land reform has been very diverse indeed, depending upon the group interests of elites in power. The first document from U.N.O. dealing with the problem was issued under the title, "Land Reform: Defects in Agrarian Structure as Obstacles to Economic Development". It did not differentiate between land reform and agrarian reform and went on to suggest that land reform aimed at improving the

1. Encyclopaedia Britannica, Vol.13(The University of Chicago, Chicago, 1970), p.658.

institutional framework of agriculture which included;

... in the first place, land tenure, the legal or customary system under which land is owned: the distribution of ownership of farm property between large estates and peasant farms or among peasant farms of various sizes; land tenancy, the system under which land is operated and its product divided between operator and owner; the organization of credit, production and marketing; the mechanism through which agriculture is financed; the burdens imposed on rural populations by governments to rural populations, such as technical advice and educational facilities, health services, water supply and communication.²

Traditionally it has been the distress caused by the sufferings of the peasantry that has provided arguments for land reform programmes. To some scholars, this is the so called sociological argument for reform as against the economic argument of incentives for investment. The land reform in this sense is a sort of income redistributing mechanism. Since conventional development theory treat personal income distribution

2. United Nations, Land Reform: Defects in Agrarian Structure as Obstacles to Economic Development (Department of Economic Affairs, New York, 1951), p.5.

as a marginal issue and generally as an extraneous or residual problem in the growth process, such reallocation of the fruits of increased productivity is generally sought on the grounds of social justice. As social justice or equity is thought of as non-economic, its pursuit, howsoever, ultimate or moral or ethical it may be, is viewed as a parallel or competing goal to growth.

For us, welfare and investment aspects are one organic whole. Increasing the size of the cake will be of little use without assuring its appropriate distribution. The welfare aspect is important precisely because it is a condition of development. In the situation of developing countries, the relatively higher incomes do not reflect ability and skills but privileged access to property, market power and social status. This situation acts as a brake on talent and effort. This makes land reform a crucial issue in the situation of limited growth prospects in the early stages of development. In countries where 70 to 80 per cent of the population depends upon agriculture as the source of livelihood, land tenure is the basic economic law and it must assure justice to good men into action.

Ceiling Laws are prevalent all over the country except in the North-East region where the land is generally

held by the community and in the union territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and Goa, Daman and Diu. In other areas, the ceiling was first imposed on land-holdings in the fifties and sixties. Later, National Guidelines on the subject were framed in 1972. Under the two sets of ceiling laws, 7.2 million acres of land have been declared surplus, 5.6 million acres have been taken possession of and 4.4 million acres distributed. Thus, 2.8 million acres of land declared surplus have not been distributed so far. Of this 1.6 million acres are involved in litigation and 0.89 million acres have been reserved for specific public purposes. It would be seen that a very large chunk of surplus distributable land is blocked due to litigation.³

As per the plan document the full potential of land redistribution has not been realised both in terms of covering the entire surplus that may be available and taking possession of and distribution of that already identified. Legal and administrative bottlenecks have led to large gaps between declaration of surplus land, taking actual possession of the land and its distribution. Appropriate measures will have to be

3. Government of India, Planning Commission; Seventh Five Years Plan 1985-90, Vol.II, p.62.

taken to reduce the gap. Reassessment of ceiling surplus land will have to be done by the states, especially in the command areas and other newly irrigated areas.⁴

The document also ^{suggests} / to ensure the best use of surplus land that can not be distributed because it is unfit for cultivation. The State Governments would have to take possession ^{of such land} / in order to avoid encroachment and to ensure their development in planned manner.

A scheme for providing financial assistance to assignees of ceiling surplus land had also been started in 1975-76 for the landless poor, so as to enable them to take to profitable cultivation on the assigned land which is generally of poor quality. As the scheme now stands, financial assistance is provided upto Rs.2,500 per hectare to be given as a grant to the assignees, for various purchases like simple land development equipments, provision of inputs as well as immediate consumption needs. Since the inception of the scheme, Rs. 25.07 crores have been released to the states under this programme.

4. Ibid., p.63.

According to the Plan document the scheme for financial assistance to the assignees of ceiling surplus land would be continued during the Seventh Plan. Since land as an endowed asset is only the first stage of productive self-employment for a large section of the poverty group, close linkages will have to be forged with IRDP and other rural development programmes so that assignees of ceiling and other lands are given priority in identification and their performance monitored separately.⁵

The Background

Rarely does a study on Indian Economics open its chapter on agriculture without making a drastic criticism of Indian agrarian structure, and rarely does it end without some proposal or other for land reform. Land reform proposals secured the pride of place in the economic programme of the Indian National Congress as early as in the beginning of this century. Thanks to Gandhiji, the peasant movement became an integral part of the national movement for independence. The grinding poverty of the peasantry became the plank for agitation. The iniquitous practices of rack renting, low wages and

5. Ibid., p.63.

insecure tenures, system of absentee landlordism, the glaring disparity in landownership which meant the co-existence of opulence and penury - these became symbols of an unjust socio-economic structure, fostered and maintained, as it were, by the alien rule. The agitation for political independence became therefore not a mere expression of national sentiment, but the manifestation of the urge for reforming the socio-economic structure with a view to eliminate injustice and inequality and give a better deal to the poverty stricken rural masses.

If we trace the history of the congress movement from the champaran satyagraha of 1917, we find that the economic programme of the congress was more than anything else a programme of agrarian reforms, demands for consolidation of uneconomic land holdings, reduction of or exemption from rent, cancellation or reduction of debts, conferment of security of tenure and above all, the abolition of the zamindari system. Repeatedly the evils of the tenancy system and absentee landlordism were pointed out, the virtues of peasant proprietorship were extolled and the suggestion of cooperative farming was put forth as the solution for the problem of uneconomic holdings. It is against this background that any aspect of land reform in India will have to be examined at the outset. Although the

concept of a ceiling on landholdings was not specifically putforth, the protagonists of social justice and equality in the agrarian sector must not had some such proposal in mind. The slogan of "land to the tiller", implies the surrender of land which one cannot personally - with his own and family labour-cultivate.

The first specific proposal for a ceiling on land holdings soon after independence appears to have come from a congress committee under the chairmanship of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru. The committee was appointed by the All India Congress Committee in 1947 to draw up an economic programme giving practical shape to the ideals held by the party in the sphere of socio-economic reform. The report of this economic programme committee contained various recommendations for land reform. Among other things the report declared that "land should be held for use and as a source of employment". It further recommended that "the maximum size of holding should be fixed" and "the surplus land over such a maximum should be acquired and placed at the disposal of village cooperatives". This was soon followed by the appointment of the Congress Agrarian Reforms Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. J.C.Kumarappa to make recommendations about agrarian reforms arising out of the abolition of the zamindari system in the light of conditions prevailing in

different provinces. Declaring that in the agrarian economy of India there could be no place for intermediaries and that land must belong to the tiller, this committee expressed itself against any subletting of land except in the case of special categories of persons like widows, minors and disabled persons. Stressing the need for an upper as well as a lower limit for individual farming, the committee suggested that to avoid social injustice there should be a reasonable relation between the economic holding and the maximum size of a holding which an individual peasant can be allowed to cultivate. According to the committee, the ceiling should be placed at three times of the economic holding, the economic holding being one which would afford a reasonable standard of living to the cultivator and provide full employment to a family of normal size. The committee justified the level of the ceiling on the ground that the supply of land in relation to the population was so limited and that the present technique of cultivation, managerial ability and financial resources were such that the optimum size ought to be fairly low.

The Case For Ceilings

The principle of distributive justice appears to be the main argument in favour of imposing a ceiling on land holdings. Further, the directive principles of the constitution, which

perforce provide inspiration to economic planning in India, call upon the state to promote the welfare of the people by creating a social order in which justice- social, economic and political- will prevail. They further ordain the state to direct its policy towards securing:

- a) 'that the citizens, men and women, equally have the right to an adequate means of livelihood',
- b) 'that the ownership and control of the material resources of the community are so distributed as to subserve the common good', and
- c) 'that the operation of the economic system does not result in concentration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment'.

The emphasis on reduction of inequality and the promotion of distributive justice is obvious, and its influence on Indian planning is natural and inevitable with a view to attain the central objective of creating conditions in which living standards were reasonably high and all citizens had full and equal opportunity for growth and service; the first five year plan envisaged not minor adjustment in the existing economic institutions but - a "transformation of the system so as to secure greater

efficiency as well as equality and justice.⁶ Outlining the objectives of its land policy, the plan states that "from the social aspect which is not less important than the economic, a policy for land may be considered adequate in the measure in which, now and in the coming years, it reduces disparities in wealth and income, eliminates exploitation, provides security for tenant and worker, and finally promises equality of status and opportunity to different sections of the rural population."⁷

Discussing the policy in respect of the substantial owners of land - as one of the five different classes whose interests are affected by land reform - the plan states that the question of ceiling on individual land holdings has to be answered in terms of general principles rather than in relation to the possible use that could be made of the surplus land. "It appears to us," says the Planning Commission, "that in relation to land individual property in excess of any norm that may be proposed has to be justified in terms of public interest, and not merely on individual rights or claims. We are, therefore, in favour of the principle that there should be an upper limit to the amount of land that

6. First Five Year Plan, p.29.

7. Ibid., p.184.

an individual may hold".⁸ In the second five year plan the Planning Commission reiterates this principle and re-states the justification that lies behind it.⁹ It may, however, be noted that reduction of inequalities must perforce occupy a more prominent place in the second plan than in the first in as much as the second plan envisaged a socialist pattern of society as the overall objective of national endeavour. The plan realised, no doubt that the process of reducing inequalities is a two fold one, a process of levelling up from the lowest levels as well as a process of levelling down at the top and admitted rightly that the first aspect is basically the more important one. But it adds notably that "early and purposeful action in regard to the second aspect is also called for."¹⁰ Thus on the one side available empirical data reveal a high degree of inequality in the structure of agricultural land ownership in India; on the other side reduction of social and economic inequalities is envisaged as one of the objectives of planning in India. It appears obvious therefore that a ceiling on land ownership will have to be conceived as an important step in the direction of better distributive justice.

8. Ibid., p.188.

9. Second Five Year Plan, p.178.

10. Ibid., p.33.

The question is sometimes raised why the agrarian sector should be singled out for reduction of inequalities and whether such a policy does not amount to discrimination between the ownership of land and the ownership of other types of assets. Also, the ultimate effect of a ceiling on land holding being a ceiling on income, the question is asked whether income from work could be allowed to escape from a ceiling while income from property too subjected to it. Taking the second point first, it may be observed that the ownership of property is by far the most important factor responsible for economic inequalities. It is true that incomes from work are by no means equal; but they have admittedly some justification in terms of productivity or relative scarcity. The differentiation of earned and unearned income for purposes of taxation is based largely on this consideration.¹¹ Regarding the question raised earlier of discrimination between the agrarian sector and the other sectors, the Congress Agrarian Reforms Committee while recommending a ceiling on land ownership had expressed the hope that "a similar principle of distributive justice would be applied to other sectors of our economy".¹² But while the

11. Report of the Taxation Enquiry Commission, 1953-54, Vol. II, p. 139.

12. Report, p. 9.

spirit of this dictum could be appreciated, it has to be pointed out that a ceiling on land ownership has a case by itself, apart from the general case for reducing disparities in all incomes. This point was well brought out by the Ex-Finance Minister, Mr. C.D.Deshmukh, when he told the Lok Sabha¹³ that land in an old and thickly populated country is a much sought after and non reproducible instrument of production. In other words, land is a scarce natural resource in a country like India. Ownership and cultivation of land, said Mr. Deshmukh, determine in an important way the economic and social relationships within rural society. There is, therefore, a special case for the regulation of land ownership, tenures and land utilisation. A landholder is, in theory at least, free to hold other types of assets like a house or stocks and shares. What is sought to be limited is his land holding, not his income in the aggregate, although ceiling on land will of course have a direct effect on income.

It may, however, be noted that the agrarian sector is not being unduly singled out for applying the principles of social justice. These principles do find application in the non-agrarian sectors also. The progressive taxation

13. Lok Sabha debates, Vol.IV, 48, 21-4-1956, p.5900.

of non-agricultural incomes, the wealth tax, the estate duty, the gift tax, the expansion of the public sector along strategic directions are instances in point. Further, the reduction of disparities in the non-agricultural sectors of the economy would necessarily follow a pattern different from that required in agriculture. It could not take the form of breaking up existing units of production and dividing them among small owners as is the case with land.¹⁴

Lastly, the limits of practicability have also to be borne in mind. A limit on income through ceilings on all property, even if desirable in principle, is hardly a feasible proposition. Action in the immediate future has therefore to be confined to fields where it is dictated by urgent considerations of social interest.

Effect on Production

One sometimes hears the argument that a ceiling on land-holdings will have an adverse effect on agricultural production. Of course in the context of planning for economic development, any measure that is likely to diminish production has to be viewed with suspicion and disfavour. This should particularly be so when the production affected is that of

14. Progress of Land Reforms in India, Gulgari Lal Nanda (1957), p.25.

food and raw materials, vital for economic development. It is not impossible that at times steps in the direction of social justice and welfare might come in conflict with the steps necessary for augmenting production, stimulating capital formation and generating economic growth. But as far as possible an economy seeking to develop must endeavour to place the interests of growth above the need for social justice. It is contended that a ceiling on land holdings will mean cutting up the larger estates into smaller ones. This, in turn, would mean foregoing the advantages of the economies of scale and would also affect the prospect of increased productivity through improved techniques. For substantial improvements in methods of cultivation like mechanization for instance, are not possible except on large farms. In this connection a few points deserve attention. Firstly, under the prevalent tenancy system a large owned holding does not necessarily mean a large operational unit. What matters from the point of view of production is the size of the operational unit and it is on this that the economies of scale would depend. Secondly, even the large farms that are personally cultivated are not always found in compact blocks, thus rendering major improvement in technique difficult. Thirdly, experience suggests that large farms are not always the ones that are

most efficiently cultivated. Some of the recent investigations under the Farm Management Studies in the country have shown that in general the smaller farms show a higher yield per acre than the larger farms. This is largely because the smaller farms are found to be more intensively cultivated. They rely on family labour and practically little on hired labour. Thus, while on the one hand the ceiling on land ownership will not always reduce the unit of operation, on the other hand even if the size of the operational units were to be reduced one can not be sure that productive efficiency would suffer.

Fourthly, the most important requisite for increased agricultural production in India is improved technology - not tractors and combine harvestors, but simple improvements in methods of cultivation, better seeds, more and better manures, rotation of crops, pest control etc. These improvements do not call for large farms. The experience of Japan shows that improved technology, rather than increase in the size of farm is more important for increased agricultural productivity.¹⁵ Also mechanization is on the one hand undesirable in view of the resulting displacement of labour and on the other hand impracticable in view of the overall capital shortage.

15. "Agricultural Productivity and Economic Development in Japan", B.F. Johnston, Journal of Political Economy, December 1951.

Lastly, whether production will be adversely affected or not by the imposition of ceiling would depend on how the surplus land acquired is disposed of; provided the surplus is not uneconomically utilised, production need not be affected. One feels, therefore, that a diminution in production cannot be considered an inevitable consequence of a ceiling on land holdings.

At the same time it has to be observed that the land policy under the five year plans, besides emphasising the social justice aspect, does stress the economic efficiency aspect also.

The objectives of land reform are claimed to be two fold:-

First, to remove such impediments upon agricultural production as arise from the character of the agrarian structure, and

Secondly, to create conditions for evolving as speedily as may be possible an agrarian economy with high levels of efficiency and productivity.¹⁶ The landlord tenancy system is obviously one such impediment upon increased agricultural production in particular and economic development in general.¹⁷ Measures like regulation of rent

16. First Five Year Plan, p.190.

17. Second Five Year Plan, p.178.

and conferment of security of tenure serve no doubt to mitigate the evils of the system. But the ultimate solution of the problem lies in the abolition of the system of tenancy and subtenancy. The proposal of a ceiling on resumption for personal cultivation and conferment of ownership right on tenants are, as it were, the two sides of the same coin, and are expected to contribute to higher production. The insistence on some kind of personal labour on the land as a necessary qualification for land ownership and management is a safeguard against the passing of land in to the hands of non agriculturist rentiers under whom production is bound to suffer. Pointing out that "in the conditions of India large disparities in the distribution of wealth and income are inconsistent with economic progress in any sector" the second plan lays down that for the building up of a progressive rural economy it is essential that disparities in the ownership of land should be greatly reduced.¹⁸

Unlike certain types of inequality in advanced countries, inequality in landownership in under-developed countries do not contribute either to capital formation or to economic efficiency. Under conditions of excessive disparity in the ownership of land the rural masses cannot be expected to put forth enthusiastic effort necessary

18. Land Reform Defects in Agrarian structure As Obstacles to Economic Development, United Nations(1951), p.18.

for the implementation of the plan in general and for increased agricultural production in particular. Further, it is also considered that reduction of disparities in the ownership of land is also essential for developing a co-operative rural economy, for cooperation thrives best in homogeneous groups in which there are no large inequalities.¹⁹ Since
[Augmentation of production is sought through the instrumentality of co-operation, cooperative village management is the goal set by the plan and the ceiling on landownership is a step in that direction. To sum up, if necessary precautions are taken against the break up of efficient units and if the surplus lands acquired are economically utilised, the ceiling on landholdings is not likely to affect production adversely but might even contribute towards increased production and improved efficiency.

But unfortunately, the State Governments, have not been in a position to implement land reform policies as effectively as it was desired. As such, the need arises that some studies should be taken up in the area of land reforms and based upon the findings of such studies a new strategy may be adopted to implement the land reform policies effectively.

19. Second Five Year Plan, p.173.

Objectives of the Study

Keeping this fact in view the Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi, took up this study with the following objectives:-

- i) To examine the criteria of assigning the land to the landless;
- ii) To ascertain whether the assignees cultivate the land or have been dispossessed of it;
- iii) If dispossessed of land, to ascertain whether it was a result of social and political force or economic necessities;
- iv) If the beneficiaries are cultivating the land, what financial assistance they get from government and other financing agency;
- v) To examine the effectiveness of land reform acts in protecting the beneficiaries from dispossession and exploitation;
- vi) Based on time-scheduled data, to assess their socio-economic condition after becoming the surplus land beneficiary;
- vii) To compare and contrast their economic condition with those who have not been benefitted from surplus ceiling land;

- viii) To locate the bottlenecks which exist in proper implementation of land reform and judicious distribution of surplus ceiling land; and
- ix) Finally, based on empirical enquiry, to suggest ways and means for effective and better utilisation of assigned land by the beneficiaries.

Relevance of the Study

In the broader framework of above mentioned objectives the study was conducted in three states of Indian Republic i.e., Haryana, Karnataka and West Bengal. The relevance of the present study lies in the fact that surrendering of surplus land by the big farmers and land acquired under Bhoodan movement as also the unused government land have a direct bearing on the land reform policies of Government of India in general and State Government's in particular. Further it has been noticed that hundreds and thousands acres of land have been acquired by the State Governments under the Ceiling Act (Both actual acquisition and acquisition on paper only). But either the surplus land has not yet been distributed or if distributed, in haphazard manner. Again, it has been noticed that if the land has been distributed among landless, in course of time, they have been dispossessed of land either under economic pressure or by force, both social and political. Similarly,

in certain States it has been noticed that the surplus land has been distributed among such beneficiaries who had their own parental land and were engaged in cultivation. As such, it is in fitness of the things that some study should be conducted to bring to the lime-light the factors which help or hinder in improving the socio-economic condition of the rural landless by assigning them the surplus ceiling land.

The usefulness of the study lies in the fact that the conclusions arrived at and suggestions made may help the government to recast its land reform policies and to adopt a new strategy of planning and implementation of Land Reform Policies. As regards the nature of the study it is specific rather than the general one.

Methodology

Selection of the Area:

The Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, New Delhi, vide its letter No.16012/1/85/LRD dated 22 January 1985, subject: 'Evaluation of land reform measures', expressed its desire to get such studies conducted through different institutions including Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi. After having a discussion with Shri S. Bhale Rao, Deputy Secretary, Land Reforms, Department of Rural Development,

Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, it was decided that the study should be conducted in three states - Haryana, Karnataka and West Bengal vide D.O.No.16012/1/85-LRD dated August 13, 1985. The main consideration in selecting these states was either the tardy or effective implementation of land reforms. It was further decided that the present study should cover two districts in each State with reference to homogeneity and geographical as well as economic consideration. Shri Bhale Rao in the meeting also suggested that we should interview forty beneficiaries from selected districts of the States under study.

Since the study was to be carried out in two districts of each state, the problem before the Research Team was as on what criteria the district should be selected. To solve this problem we sought the cooperation and advice of the officials of Department of Rural Development, Government of India. After a discussion, with Shri N.D. Maheshwari, Deputy Secretary, Land Reforms, it was finally decided that such districts should be covered which are either DPAP districts or previously belong to the Princely States or landed aristocracy. Based on this criteria the Department of Rural Development, Government of India, decided that the study should be conducted in Bhiwani and Narnaul districts of Haryana,

Mysore and Tumkur districts of Karnataka and Nadia and Murshidabad districts of West Bengal. It was further decided that two blocks of each district should form part the universe of the study. The sample size of the study had already been mentioned in the above cited letter of the Department of Rural Development, according to which 40 beneficiaries from each district were to be selected. The Research Team went according to the directives of the Department of Rural Development and selected 40 beneficiaries each from all the six districts mentioned above. To know the officials view of the Land Reform measures, apart from 40 beneficiaries, we selected 20 officials from the District and below dealing with Land Reforms from each district on random basis for interview purpose. The officials of West Bengal and Karnataka cooperated in filling up the printed questionnaires and had an informal discussion with the Research Team. But unfortunately the officials of Haryana did not cooperate and against all assurances they did not send the filled up questionnaires inspite of repeated reminders. As such, the officials' view of only two states - Karnataka and West Bengal have been presented in the present study.

Schedule and Technique of Data Collection

The data for the present study was collected both through primary and secondary sources. The secondary sources included consultation of Land Reform Acts and Surplus Ceiling Land Act of all the three states and Government records available with the Revenue Circle, ADM, Land Reforms and State Secretariat as also the Guidelines issued by Central/State Governments from time to time.

The primary sources included serving of schedules on sample respondents, formal and informal discussions and participant and non-participant observations. Maintaining a field diary also formed part of the methodological aspect of the study.

Two different schedules one for the assignees of surplus ceiling land and another for the government officials engaged in Land Reform Department at district level were prepared and at the time of interview translated in Hindi, Bengali and Kannada whenever required. However, before finalising questionnaires both the schedules were discussed with Shri N.D. Maheshwari, Deputy Secretary(LR), Government of India. He gave some valuable suggestions and on his advice nearly 10 questions were added in the final schedule. Before serving the schedule on the

sample respondents both the schedules were pre-tested. While pre-testing the questionnaires, it was observed that some questions need to be revised. As such from both the questionnaires 12(twelve) questions were removed and an equal number of new questions were added to the original schedule. The questions used in both the schedules were basically of two types - fixed answer questions and opinionative. The scores on fixed answer questions were tabulated questionwise and have been presented in tabular form and the opinion and reaction expressed by sample respondents to our opinionative questions have been categorised and presented in explanatory form.

In course of serving the questionnaires on sample respondents it was felt that desired information was not coming out due to formal environment. As such, we largely depended on informal discussions with the respondents which proved quite useful. Just to varify the informal statements of the beneficiaries and the officials, we got it cross checked with the divergent sections of the village society. Apart from seeking information from the sample respondents, we also tried to obtain information from the knowledgeable persons of rural society by going to their places and talking at length, about local level bureaucracy, panchayati raj representatives and land reform measures. This method also helped us a lot in

different ways. Through this method at least we were able to know such facts which had not been supplied by the sample respondents of both the categories.

During the course of field study a lot of inconvenience was faced by the Research Team. In West Bengal we received little help and cooperation from the officials of the State Secretariat and for two days we had to move from this section to that section of the Revenue Department. After overcoming such difficulties at the Secretariat level, the Research Team proceeded to the Districts where the officials were found very much cooperative. However, in both the Districts of Nadia and Murshidabad the Research Team had a very very tough time to deal with the activists of political parties who compelled the beneficiaries to reply to our queries as per their dictates. However, to overcome this problem, the Research Team decided to give a unscheduled visit to the places of the beneficiaries and interview them. In some cases, we proceeded to the agricultural fields of the beneficiaries for interview purpose. By adopting the method of secret visit to the places of the beneficiaries, the Research Team succeeded in warding off the activists of political parties who used to poke their nose during the course of interview with the beneficiaries.

In Karnataka the Research Team received immense help and cooperation from the State Secretariat officials and the work in the state secretariat was completed within one day. In Mysore district, the District officials were found to be most helpful. But at the Taluk level we had to face a lot of difficulties which have been described in the chapter "Field Notes and Observation". In Tumkur District the Research Team had to face virtually non-cooperation from the District officials and at a certain point of time we doubted whether the field work ^{would} be completed. But the Tahsildar of Sira Taluk was very helpful. But for his sincere help and cooperation the field study of the Tumkur District would not have been completed.

In the last leg of field study i.e. in the State of Haryana the Research Team had to face a tough time particularly in Bhiwani District. The Deputy Commissioner had gone on some training programme and the young ADC was incharge. He showed no interest in the study and at a particular point of time we decided to return back to Delhi. But some how or other we managed to complete the field work and the interview with beneficiaries. The officials collected the questionnaire meant for government officials from the Research Team with an assurance that after filling up the questionnaires they will send ^{them} / by post. But inspite of our repeated

reminders they did not send them. Same assurance was given in Narnaul District too and the result was also the same. However, in Narnaul District we received help and cooperation from the DC and City Magistrate. They helped us in providing the secondary data and in completing the interview with the beneficiaries. But the officials did not reply to our printed schedule inspite of repeated reminders.

However, the Research Team after over coming such difficulties completed the field work of all the three states quite satisfactorily. But much time was taken than expected.

Aspects of the Study

The present study has been coached in six chapters. The first chapter i.e. Introduction sets forth the parameters of the study in the policy framework and highlights the objectives of the study. It also deals with the methodological aspect of the study.

While chapter second provides a comparative picture of Land Reforms Measures and Surplus Ceiling Land Acts of three States under study, chapter three gives an account of the perception of Government officials engaged in land reform in the three states and their suggestions in regard to effective implementation of land reform measures.

Chapter four, based upon the time schedule data, provide an account of improvement in economic condition of assignees of ceiling land.

Chapter five is devoted to Field Notes and Observation. In this chapter a detailed account of field has been presented. It is based on the personal observation of the Research Team.

Finally, in chapter six we have attempted to provide some meaningful suggestions for better implementation of Land Reform Measures in the States under study in particular and whole of the country in general.

CHAPTER-II

STATUTORY PROVISIONS RELATING TO LAND REFORMS (WEST BENGAL, KARNATAKA AND HARYANA: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS)

Item 18 of the State List in Schedule VII of the Constitution of India* deals with land reforms. Accordingly, land reforms in India, is "largely recommended and coordinated by the Central Government and the Planning Commission and executed by the individual State Governments (within the purview of their own Acts), with the result that policy implementation varies widely".¹ One of major types of reforms had been the ceilings on land holdings and distribution of surplus lands to landless poor. Our present study is concerned with this measure only. In any society governed by the fundamental principles of rule of law any major reform has to be carried on through appropriate legislation. Since the State Governments in India have enacted their own Acts, it would be worthwhile to provide a comparative analysis of the relevant statutory provisions laid down in the Land Reforms Acts of the three States under study. The titles

* Item 18 reads as follows: "Land, that is to say, rights in or over land, land tenures including the relation of landlord and tenant, and the collection of rents; transfer and alienation of agricultural land; land improvement and agricultural loans; colonization".

1. Land Reforms, World Bank Paper - Rural Development Series, July 1974.

of these Acts are mentioned below in a chronological order:-

- The West Bengal Land Reforms Act, 1955
(West Bengal Act X of 1956).
- The Karnataka Land Reforms Act, 1961
(Karnataka Act No.10 of 1962).
- The Haryana Ceiling on Land Holdings Act, 1972
(Haryana Act of 1972).

Each of these Acts(hereinafter referred to by name of the respective State) has been amended several times in response to changing needs of the time and in view of the experience gained in the course of implementation.

1. Definition of Family

"Family", as defined in all the three Acts² includes husband, wife and minor children. While both the West Bengal and the Karnataka Acts include unmarried daughters as members of the family, the West Bengal Act also includes unmarried and married adult sons, widow of the predeceased son, provided they or their wife, minor sons or unmarried daughters, as the case may be, do not hold any land as the raiyyat.³ Child of a family, as defined in the Haryana Act, includes even the illegitimate child of the husband or the wife and living with them or either of them.

2. Sec.14K(c) of the West Bengal Act, Sec.2(A) (12) of the Karnataka Act and Sec.3(f) of the Haryana Act.

3. Raiyyat, as defined in Sec.2(10) of the West Bengal Act, means a person who holds land for purpose of agriculture.

2. Definition of Holding

The term "holding" which has been specifically defined only in the Act of West Bengal⁴ means the land or lands held by a raiyat, i.e., a person who holds land for purpose of agriculture. The Karnataka Act,⁵ however, has defined "small holder" as a landowner owning land not exceeding two units⁶ whose total net annual income including the income from such land does not exceed Rs. 4800/-.

3. Ceiling on Land Holdings and Classification of Lands for Fixation of Ceiling Limit

The ceiling area fixed under the West Bengal Act⁷ varies between 2.50 and 7.00 standard hectares depending on the size of the family but irrespective of quality of the land. Under the Acts of Karnataka⁸ and Haryana⁹ the ceiling area varies

4. Sec.2(6).

5. Sec.2(A) (31).

6. "Unit", as defined under Sec.2(A) (35A), means one acre of A Class land, the soil classification value of which is fifty paise and above or an extent equivalent thereto consisting of one or more classes of other land as explained later in this chapter.

7. Sec.14M.

8. Sections 2(35A), 63-64, and Schedule I, Part A and B.

9. Sections 4 and 7.

from 10 to 20 units or acres of A Class land having the soil classification value of 50 paise and above and 7.25 to 42.16 hectares respectively depending on the size of the family as well as the quality of the land. Quality-wise, the Karnataka Act provides for four classes of lands - A, B, C and D - depending on the availability of assured or lift irrigation facilities suitable for growing one or two paddy crops, or one crop of sugarcane or only light irrigated crop other than paddy and sugarcane in a year, the source of irrigation and the system of water supply, and also on whether the lands have been classified as dry having no irrigation facilities from a government source, etc. The Haryana Act also provides for quality-based classification of lands for the purpose of determining the permissible area in respect of ceiling on land holdings, viz.: (a) lands under assured irrigation capable of growing at least two crops in a year; (b) land under assured irrigation capable of growing at least one crop in a year; (c) land of all other types including land under orchard. Unlike the West Bengal and the Haryana Act, the Karnataka Act provides for a complex formula for determining equivalent extent of different classes of lands as under:-

One acre of A class land having soil classification value above 50 paise (eight annas)=1.3 acres of A class land having soil classification value below 50 paise = 1.5 acres of B class land having soil classification

value above 50 paise = 2.00 acres of B class land having soil classification value below 50 paise = 2.5 acres of C class land having soil classification value above 50 paise = 3.00 acres of C class land having soil classification value below 50 paise = 5.4 acres of D class land.

4. Exemptions and Exceptions to Ceiling Limits

The above referred ceilings on land holdings are, however, subject to certain exemptions or concessions. The Karnataka Act,¹⁰ for instance, grants concession in respect of the ceiling area to the extent of 50 units, in case the land is held by a sugar factory solely for purpose of research or seed farm or both. The Act of West Bengal¹¹ provides for exemption to any land owned as a raiyat by a local authority or anybody or authority constituted or established by or under any law for the time being. The Haryana Act¹² also grants exemptions to lands owned by, or vested in, the State Government or the Central Government, a Municipal Committee or a Cantonment Board or Gram Panchayat, Haryana Bhudan Yagna Board, etc., or lands belonging to registered cooperative societies formed for the purposes of cooperative farming, lands belonging to primary

10. Section 63 (8) (a).

11. Section 14R.

12. Section 5.

agricultural cooperative credit societies, land mortgage banks, the State and the Central Cooperative Banks, etc., in respect to which the provisions of the Act itself do not apply.

Exemption has also been provided for under the Karnataka Act in certain cases of land holdings. Section 75 of this Act, for instance, states: "Where a person either by himself or, if he has a family, or is a member of a joint family, together with any other member of the family, or joint family holds land not exceeding the ceiling limit referred to in Section 63 or 64, but subsequently the land held exceeds the ceiling limit, due to any change in the classification of the land consequent upon any improvements effected in the land by such person or of the family or due to a decrease in the number of members of the family, then, notwithstanding anything contained in this chapter¹³ such person shall not be required to surrender any part of the land on the ground that it is excess land".

These^a part, all the three Acts¹⁴ have granted concession/exemption in regard to the ceiling area of educational, religious or charitable institution or society or trust, of a public

13. Chapter-IV.

14. Sec.14Q(3) of the West Bengal Act; Sec.63(7) of the Karnataka Act; Sec.5A of the Haryana Act.

nature. While the Haryana Act provides for an exemption to such institutions in existence immediately before the commencement of this Act but not belonging to the Mahant, Mohtamim or manager thereof, the West Bengal and the Karnataka Act grant certain concessions to them. In case of West Bengal, the ceiling area of land held by a corporation or institution or even by a person in trust exclusively for a charitable or religious purpose or both, can be increased to such extent as the State Government may think fit. The Karnataka Act, on the other hand, grants concession to the extent of twenty units provided that the income from the land is appropriated solely for the institution, society or trust.

5. Criteria for Distribution of Surplus Lands

It has been stipulated in all the three Acts¹⁵ that the surplus land, i.e., the land which is in excess of the prescribed ceiling area shall be surrendered to and vest in the State Government free from all incumbrance. As a general policy of land reforms the surplus lands are to be distributed to the poor and landless peasants and the members of backward classes with the object of improving their economic conditions. It would, therefore, be desirable to shed light on the statutory

15. Sec.145 of the West Bengal Act; Secs. 65 and 65A of the Karnataka Act; Sec.12 of the Haryana Act.

provisions laying down the criteria for distribution of surplus lands. The West Bengal Act¹⁶ provides that "settlement of any land which is at the disposal of the State Government shall be made without any premium being charged for it, in such manner as may be prescribed, with persons who are residents of the locality where the land is situated, and who together with other members of their family own no land or less than 0.4047* hectare of land, one-half of the lands cultivated by them as bargadars (share-croppers) being taken into account for the purpose of calculating the aggregate of such land, and subject to the following conditions, namely:-

- a) that, in the case of agricultural land, such person intends to bring the land under personal cultivation,
- b) that, in the case of homestead land, such person having no homestead of his own, intends to construct a dwelling house thereon, and
- c) such other terms and conditions as may be prescribed".

Among the persons eligible for such settlement, preference shall, however, be given to persons belonging to Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe or who form themselves into a

16. Section 49(1).

* The figures 0.4047 substituted for 1.00 by the West Bengal Land Reforms (Amendment) Act, 1980, (Act XLI of 1980).

Cooperative Society for the purpose. Again, no settlement of land shall be made, under this Act, with any person who is engaged or employed in any business, trade, undertaking, manufacture, calling, service, or industrial occupation. The Karnataka Act,¹⁷ on the other hand, lays down that surplus lands vesting in the State Government are to be disposed of, subject to reservation or fifty per cent thereof grant, to persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and subject to such restrictions and conditions as may be prescribed in this behalf, to the following persons to the extent and in the manner as may be prescribed:..

- i) Dispossessed tenants* who are not registered as occupants;
- ii) Displaced tenants** having no land;
- iii) Landless agricultural labourers;

17. Section 77(1) as substituted by Act 23 of 1977 with effect from 1-3-1974.

* "Dispossessed tenant" means a person who not being member of the family of the owner was cultivating lands personally but dispossessed between 10th September 1957 and 24th January 1971 and who is not registered as an occupant under the provisions of this Act.

** "Displaced tenant" means a person who has been deprived of agricultural land on which he was a tenant on account of (i) acquisition of such land under the Land Acquisition Act, or (ii) resumption of such land by a soldier or a seaman for personal cultivation.

- iv) Landless persons and ex-Military personnel whose gross annual income does not exceed rupees two thousand;
- v) Released bonded labourers;
- vi) Other persons residing in villages in the same Panchayat and whose gross annual income does not exceed rupees two thousand.

The Haryana Act¹⁸ provides that the State Government may, by notification, frame a scheme for utilizing the surplus area by allotment of land to members of the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, landless persons, agricultural workers, tenants, ex-servicemen, tenants liable to ejectment, or persons owning land measuring less than two hectares of the category specified in clause(c) of sub-section(1) of section 4, i.e., land of all types other than land under assured irrigation capable of growing at least one or two crops in a year or land of equivalent value. Accordingly, the Haryana Utilization of Surplus and other Areas Scheme, 1976 has been framed vide Revenue Departments' Notification dated the 28th May, 1976 which lays down inter alia the categories of eligible persons and inter se priority therein and also principles and procedures of allotment.

18. Section 15(2).

A close scrutiny of the statutory provisions relating to the distribution of surplus lands would reveal that the manner in which the members belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes are given preference vary from one Act to another. While the Karnataka Act provides for reservation of fifty per cent of disposable lands for persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Haryana Utilization of Surplus and Other Areas Scheme, 1976 lays down that forty per cent of the remaining surplus area in the village after satisfying the claims of eligible persons of categories A, B, BB, C and CC as mentioned under Paragraph 4 of this Scheme shall be reserved for allotment to eligible members of the Scheduled Castes and the next ten per cent of such surplus area to eligible persons belonging to the Backward Classes. The West Bengal Act, in stead of providing for any such reservation, lays down that among the eligible persons preference shall be given to persons belonging to Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe. However, unlike the Acts of Karnataka and Haryana, preference has also to be given under the West Bengal Act to persons who form themselves into a Cooperative Society for the purpose of settlement of surplus lands.

6. Concession and Facilities for Cooperative Farming Societies

Cooperative farming is considered to be an effective device for consolidation of fragmented land holdings and thereby increasing agricultural productivity. The West Bengal and Karnataka Acts have, therefore, provided for certain concessions and facilities to Cooperative Farming Societies. Apart from giving priority to eligible peasants who form themselves into a Cooperative Society for the purpose of settlement of surplus lands, the West Bengal Act¹⁹ also makes elaborate provisions for formation of these Societies and giving them such concessions and facilities as reduction of revenue, free supply of seeds and manure for the first three years and thereafter at concessional rates, free technical advice by the official experts, financial assistance, and arrangements for better marketing. Like the West Bengal Act but unlike the Act of Haryana, the Karnataka Act²⁰ contains elaborate provisions for formation of Cooperative Farms and giving them certain concessions and facilities, such as reduction of land revenue, reduction of or exemption from agricultural income-tax, free

19. Secs. 43-48.

20. Chapter-VII (Sections 89 to 102).

technical advice from official experts, financial aid and grant of subsidies and loans with or without interest, and priority in irrigations from State irrigation works. Thus, as A.N.Saha²¹ observed very poignantly: "A new class of land-holders in the shape of Cooperative Farming Societies (or Cooperative Farms) has been sought to be brought into existence with certain facilities given to them which are denied to the individual raiyats. This is in consonance with the fundamental duty envisaged in Art.51A(j) of the Constitution of India which lays down that it is the duty of every citizen of India to strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity, so that the nation constantly rises to higher levels of endeavour and achievement. Cultivation of large areas in compact blocks with modern scientific materials and implements, is economic as it is, ^{is} sure to enhance the productive power of the soil and the extra man power utilised in the indigenous system may otherwise be profitably lent".

7. Protection of the Assignees from Unauthorised Dispossession

There is a widespread feeling that the assignees are often dispossessed of the assigned lands by the use of force, threat

21. West Bengal Land Reforms Act, Sixth Edn., Calcutta: Debbooks, Eastern Law House, 1982, pp.284-285.(emphasis added).

or otherwise, perpetrated by the influential landlords. It is of utmost importance, therefore, to examine whether sufficient safeguards are provided in the Land Reforms Acts against such unauthorised or illegal dispossession. The West Bengal Act²² provides for penalty for unauthorised occupation of vested lands including the lands assigned to the peasants under sub-section(1) of Section 49. The penalty prescribed by the Act for such unauthorised occupation is imprisonment upto a period of one year or fine upto a maximum of two thousand rupees or both. The Acts of Karnataka²³ and Haryana²⁴ make provision for summary eviction against such dispossession by the Tahsildar* and the Collector** respectively. The Haryana Act, in addition to summary eviction also provides for imposition of fine not exceeding five hundred rupees on any person who is in such wrongful or unauthorised possession of any land. Further, in order to check the ^{menace} ~~the~~ of forcible dispossession of the allottees by the landowners or the inability of the allottees

22. Section 49A.

23. Section 130.

24. Section 22.

* "Tahsildar" includes a Special Tahsildar empowered by the State Government to exercise all or any of the powers of the Tahsildar under the Karnataka Act [Sec.2(32A)] 7.

** "Collector" means the Collector of a district or any other officer not below the rank of an Assistant Collector of the first grade empowered in this behalf by the State Government [Sec.2(4)] 7.

to retain possession because of threat, and pressures, instructions were issued to all the Sub-Divisional Officer(Civil) in the State to exercise the power under Sec.22 of the Haryana Act. In order to dispose of cases of forcible dispossession, the powers of the Collector under this Section have been vested with the S.D.O. (Civil) in the State. The allottee in case of forcible dispossession is simply required to file an application to the competent authority in this regard.

8. Management of Surplus Lands.

The Acts of West Bengal²⁵ and Karnataka²⁶ contain provision for management of surplus lands vested in the State. The Collector of the district in case of West Bengal or the Tahsildar in case of Karnataka is to manage such lands subject to such rules as may be prescribed by the State Government in this behalf. Under the West Bengal Act, however, the State Government may also entrust the management of all lands belonging to it in any area to such authority (other than the District Collector) as may be prescribed subject to the control of the State Government and in accordance with such rules as may be prescribed. Rule 28(3) of the West Bengal Land Reforms Rules, 1965 has laid down that

25. Section 52.

26. Section 79.

when the management of any land belonging to the State Government is entrusted to such prescribed authority, it shall be the duty of this authority to manage such lands in accordance with the rules in force for the management of Government estates as far as applicable subject to such directions as may be issued by the State Government from time to time in this behalf. Under the Karnataka Act, the Tahsildar upon whom the management of surplus lands has been entrusted is required to make arrangements for the cultivation and protection of such lands by lease or otherwise until they are disposed of. For the purpose of leasing such lands, the Tahsildar is required, as per the provisions laid down in Rule 27A of the Karnataka Land Reforms Rules, 1974 read with Rule 7, to publish a notice in the Chavadi of the village in which the land is situated and also in his Office and in the Office of the Village Panchayat, inviting applications within the period specified in the notice, from persons who are entitled to the grant of surplus land under Section 77 of the Karnataka Act. He is also required to select persons from the applicants in the order of preference indicated in Section 77 and lease the land to them to the extent of not more than one unit in each case.

The surplus area declared under the Haryana Act(1972) and the unutilised surplus area of the earlier Acts are allotted under the Haryana Utilisation of Surplus and Other Areas

Scheme of 1976 to tenants and other eligible persons. According to this Scheme, after the allotment of surplus land to certain categories of eligible tenants under the Act, the remaining land is divided into three parts. The first 40% of the surplus land in the numerical order of field Khasra numbers is earmarked for allotment to the members of the Scheduled Castes, the next 10% for the backward classes and the remaining 50% to other eligible persons. As a result of implementation of the various land ceiling laws, considerable progress appears to have been achieved in the declaration of surplus area and its utilisation under the Haryana Act. According to official estimates, out of a total of 26,963 hectares of surplus area available for allotment, 26,797 hectares of land have already been allotted to 23,321 persons which include 11,087 beneficiaries belonging to the Scheduled Castes to whom 12,427 hectares of surplus land has been allotted, which constitutes about 47% of the total allotted surplus land. While physical possession has been given in respect of 19,665 hectares, the possession in respect of the remaining allotted area could not be delivered because most of it has come under the stay orders of various revenue and civil courts. In order to expedite the disposal of all such pending cases, a special campaign has been launched and Deputy Commissioners have been advised to give their particular

attention to this work. Wherever any surplus land gets released, the same is immediately allotted and possession is delivered to the eligible persons.

Summing Up

To sum up, it may be stated that there are more or less elaborate statutory provisions conducive to progressive land reforms. Unfortunately, even four decades after Freedom, there still exists wide chasm between policy and performance, between the law and its implementation which will be revealed from the findings of this empirical study in the next few Chapters.

CHAPTER-III

OFFICIALS' PERCEPTION OF LAND REFORM MEASURES

The study basically relates to economic condition of the Assignees of surplus ceiling land. However, it is well known that success of any programme depends on its effective implementation. The implementing agency is the bureaucracy. As such, it is but natural for any empirical enquiry that the views of implementing agencies be obtained on such issues. Keeping this fact in view we selected 20 officials from each district from all the three states under study, who are working in the Revenue Department of their respective states for interview purpose. The basic objective behind selecting the officials for interview purpose was to know their awareness about land reform measures and the problems faced by them in implementing the government policies. The officials of the Karnataka and West Bengal kindly cooperated with the Research Team and happily filled up the schedule supplied by the Research Team. Unfortunately the officials of Haryana did not filled up the form on the spot and assured that the filled up questionnaires ^{would} be sent by the post. In spite of our repeated reminders, the same could not be supplied to the research team. As a result the perception of officials of Karnataka and West Bengal have been incorporated in the present chapter.

The questionnaire contained two types of questions - fixed answer and opinionative. The replies on opinionative questions were arranged in a systematic manner district and statewise and have been put in explanatory form. The fixed answer questions were tabulated itemwise and have been put in tabular form in the present chapter. Since the replies of fixed answer questions were either in yes or no, they hardly needed any explanation.

Table-3.1

Q.3 Whether you had been in land reform department prior to your present posting?

WEST BENGAL

KARNATAKA

	Nadia District		Murshidabad District		Tumkur District		Mysore District	
	Res- ponses	percen- tage	Res- ponses	percen- tage	Res- ponses	percen- tage	Res- ponses	percen- tage
Yes	15	75%	10	50%	10	50%	9	45%
No	3	15%	6	30%	4	20%	3	15%
No res- ponse	2	10%	4	20%	6	30%	8	40%
Total	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%

Table-3.2

6.4 Do you feel that the land reform measures taken by Government from time to time are sufficient and result oriented?

WEST BENGAL

KARNATAKA

Murshidabad

Nadia District		Tumkur District		Mysore District	
Res-	percen-	Res-	percen-	Res-	percen-
ponses	tage	ponses	tage	ponses	tage

Yes	16	80%	13	65%	11	55%	8	40%
No	4	20%	7	35%	3	15%	5	25%
No res- ponse	0	0	0	0	6	30%	7	35%

Total	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%
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Table-3.3

Q.5. Whether you know about the Bhoodan Movement?

		WEST BENGAL				KARNATAKA			
		Nadia District		Murshidabad District		Tumkur District		Mysore District	
		Res- ponses	Percen- tage	Res- ponses	Percen- tage	Res- ponses	Percen- tage	Res- ponses	Percen- tage
Yes	20	100%	14	70%	13	65%	11	55%	
No	0	0	6	30%	4	20%	4	20%	
No res- ponse	0	0	0	0	3	15%	5	25%	
Total	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%	

Table-3.4

Q.7. Whether Ehoodan movement had been successful, so far land reform measures are concerned?

WEST BENGAL

KARNATAKA

Murshidabad District

Nadia District

Tumkur District

Mysore District

Res- pones tage Res- pones tage Res- pones tage Res- pones tage

Res- pones tage Res- pones tage Res- pones tage Res- pones tage

Res- pones tage Res- pones tage Res- pones tage Res- pones tage

Yes 5

7

25%

35%

4

20%

20%

No 7

10

35%

50%

12

60%

50%

No res- ponse 8

3

40%

15%

4

20%

30%

Total 20

20

100%

100%

20

100%

100%

Table-3.5

Q.8. Whether the legislation regarding ceiling on land had been successful throughout the country?

WEST BENGAL

Murshidabad District

Nadia District

Res-
ponses

Percent-
tage

Res-
ponses

Percent-
tage

Tumkur District

Res-
ponses

Percent-
tage

Mysore District

Res-
ponses

Percent-
tage

Yes

16

80%

14

70%

10

50%

12

60%

No

4

20%

6

30%

6

30%

4

20%

No res-
ponse

0

0

0

0

4

20%

4

20%

Total

20

100%

20

100%

20

100%

20

100%

Table-3.6

Q.13. Whether a camp is organised for identifying the beneficiaries?

WEST BENGAL

KARNATAKA

Murshidabad

	Nadia District		District		Tumkur District		Mysore District	
	Reg- ponse	percen- tage	Res- ponse	percen- tage	Res- ponse	percen- tage	Res- ponse	percen- tage
Yes	16	80%	13	65%	10	50%	9	45%
No	4	20%	7	35%	4	20%	4	20%
No res- ponse	0	0	0	0	6	30%	7	35%
Total	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%

Table-3.7

Q.16. Whether the Government machinery faces any resistance from the landlords?

		WEST BENGAL				KARNATAKA			
		Nadia District		Murshidabad District		Tumkur District		Mysore District	
		Res- ponse	Per cen- tage	Res- ponse	Per cen- tage	Res- ponse	Per cen- tage	Res- ponse	Per cen- tage
Yes	13	65%		12	60%	9	45%	14	70%
No	5	25%		5	25%	5	25%	3	15%
No res- ponse	2	10%		3	15%	6	30%	3	15%
Total	20	100%		20	100%	20	100%	20	100%

Table-3.8

Q.17. Apart from Benami land there are some Government land known as Gair Majarua Aam and Gair Majarua Khas which are also under unauthorised possession of landlords or powerful section of the society. Have you any idea of it?

WEST BENGAL

KARNATAKA

	Nadia District		Murshidabad District		Tumkur District		Mysore District	
	Res- ponses	Per cen- tage	Res- ponses	Per cen- tage	Res- ponses	Per cen- tage	Res- ponses	Per cen- tage
Yes	3	15%	4	20%	7	35%	4	20%
No	17	85%	16	80%	9	45%	11	55%
No res- ponse	0	0	0	0	4	20%	5	25%
Total	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%

Table-3.9

Q.18(a). It is often said that Government officials take money from the powerful and affluent section of the society and allow the Benami and Gair Majarua /to land/continue in their physical possession. Is it a fact?

WEST BENGAL

KARNATAKA

Murshidabad

	Nadia District		District		Tumkur District		Mysore District	
	Res- ponses	percen- tage	Res- ponses	percen- tage	Res- ponses	percen- tage	Res- ponses	percen- tage
Yes	2	10%	0	0	0	0	2	10%
No	18	90%	11	55%	20	100%	13	65%
No res- ponse	0	0	9	45%	0	0	5	25%
Total	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%

Table-3.10

Q.18(b). If yes, have you ever faced such problem?

WEST BENGAL

KARNATAKA

Murshidabad District

Nadia District
Res-
ponses
percen-
tage

Tumkur District
Res-
ponses
percen-
tage

Mysore District
Res-
ponses
percen-
tage

Yes

0

0

0

0

3

0

15%

No

10

50%

12

60%

12

60%

60%

No res-
ponse

10

50%

8

40%

8

40%

25%

Total

20

100%

20

100%

20

100%

20

100%

Table-3.11

Q.19. Whether after allotting the patta to the beneficiary some follow up action are taken by the Government?

WEST BENGAL

Murshidabad

Nadia District
Res-
ponses
Percent-
tage

District
Res-
ponses
Percent-
tage

Tumkur District
Res-
ponses
percent-
tage

Mysore District
Res-
ponses
Percent-
tage

Yes 20

100%

20

100%

15

75%

14

70%

No

0

0

0

0

5

25%

4

20%

No res-
ponse

0

0

0

0

0

0

2

10%

Total

20

100%

20

100%

20

100%

20

100%

Table-3.12

Q.21. Whether proper agricultural inputs like seeds, fertilizers, pesticides etc. are provided to them?

WEST BENGAL

KARNATAKA

Murshidabad

Nadia District
Res-
ponses
percen-
tage

Tumkur District
Res-
ponses
percen-
tage

Mysore District
Res-
ponses
percen-
tage

Yes 18

90%

18

90%

9

45%

45%

No 2

10%

2

10%

5

25%

30%

No res-
ponse 0

0

0

0

6

30%

25%

Total 20

100%

20

100%

20

100%

100%

Table-3.13

Q.22. Whether loan and subsidy are given to the assignees of land to purchase bullock or buffalo for agricultural work?

		WEST BENGAL				KARNATAKA			
		Nadia District		Murshidabad District		Tumkur District		Mysore District	
		Res- ponses	Percen- tage	Res- ponses	Percen- tage	Res- ponses	Percen- tage	Res- ponses	Percen- tage
Yes	15	75%	12	60%	14	70%	13	65%	
No	5	25%	5	25%	3	15%	7	35%	
No res- ponse	0	0	3	15%	3	15%	0	0	
Total	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%	

Table-3.14

Q.23. Whether the assignees are protected against the high handedness of the dominant section of the society by way of protecting their agricultural field and safe arrival of the foodgrains in their houses after the harvest?

WEST BENGAL

KARNATAKA

	Nadia District		Murshidabad District		Tumkur District		Mysore District	
	Res- ponses	Percen- tage	Res- ponses	Percen- tage	Res- ponses	Percen- tage	Res- ponses	Percen- tage
Yes	20	100%	11	55%	13	65%	15	75%
No	0	0	4	20%	4	20%	3	15%
No Res- ponse	0	0	5	25%	3	15%	2	10%
Total	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%

Table-3.15

Q.24. You know better that the surplus land is assigned to the landless with a hope to improve their economic conditions.

Do you feel that their economic conditions have actually been improved?

WEST BENGAL

KARNATAKA

Murshidabad

Nadia District

Tumkur District

Mysore District

	Res- ponses	Percen- tage	Res- ponses	Percen- tage	Res- ponses	Percen- tage	Res- ponses	Percen- tage
Yes	20	100%	15	75%	14	70%	13	65%
No	0	0	5	25%	4	20%	3	15%
No res- ponse	0	0	0	0	2	10%	4	20%
Total	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%

Table-3.16

Q.25. Whether the Government office at the local level maintains time schedule data in regard to economic condition/assignees of ceiling land? / of

WEST BENGAL

KARNATAKA

	Murshidabad District				Tumkur District				Mysore District			
	Res- ponses	Percen- tage	Res- ponses	Percen- tage	Res- ponses	Percen- tage	Res- ponses	Percen- tage	Res- ponses	Percen- tage	Res- ponses	Percen- tage
Yes	13	65%	7	35%	5	25%	6	30%				
No	7	35%	13	65%	12	60%	9	45%				
No res- ponse	0	0	0	0	3	15%	5	25%				
Total	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%				

Table-3.17

Q.26. It is said that the assignees of ceiling land are forcibly dispossessed of the assigned land. Have you any idea of this?

		KARNATAKA					
		WEST BENGAL		Murshidabad District		Tumkur District	
		Nadia District		Res- ponses	percen- tage	Res- ponses	percen- tage
		Res- ponses	percen- tage	Res- ponses	percen- tage	Res- ponses	percen- tage
Yes	2	10%	9	45%	3	15%	
No	18	90%	11	55%	10	45%	
No res- ponse	0	0	0	0	6	40%	
Total	20	100%	20	100%	20	100%	

Table-3.18

Q.27. Do you feel that the measures taken by the Government have brought the desired effect?

WEST BENGAL

Murshidabad District

Nadia District
Res-
ponses
percent-
age

District
Res-
ponses
percent-
age

Tumkur District
Res-
ponses
percent-
age

Mysore District
Res-
ponses
percent-
age

Yes

17

85%

9

45%

9

45%

5

25%

No

3

15%

11

55%

7

35%

7

35%

No res-
ponse

0

0

0

0

4

20%

8

40%

Total

20

100%

20

100%

20

100%

20

100%

Nadia and Murshidabad Districts; West Bengal

Ever since the Marxist-led Left Front Government came to power in West Bengal in 1977, various important measures have been taken for effective implementation of existing land reforms enactments. One such measure was the acquisition and distribution of surplus ceiling as well as benami lands possessed by the big landlords or rai-yats through the organized and coordinated efforts of the local Panchayat bodies and concerned officials at the grass-root level of State Administration. These officials were, therefore, asked some open-ended questions with regard to operational mechanism for acquisition and distribution of such lands in this State.

The very first question that we asked them was: "How do you come to know about the landlords having surplus land in their possession?". According to the respondents, their sources of information are as follows:-

- i) official records, i.e., R.S.Khatian, etc.;
- ii) information received from the Settlement Wing of the Land Reforms Department;
- iii) information received from the Tahsildars, Panchayats and political parties;
- iv) local enquiry and other local sources.

One of the officials in the Murshidabad district said that the West Bengal Estates Acquisition Act, 1953 provided compensation to the intermediaries who were entitled to exercise their choice of retention of land within the ceiling limit prescribed therein. As such for the purpose of giving compensation, the lists of big intermediaries were prepared on the basis of card index containing the details of lands which these intermediaries held under their Khas possession. Such card index, according to this respondent, was of immense help for identification of the landlords holding surplus lands following the imposition of subsequent ceiling limit under the provisions of Section 14M of the West Bengal Land Reforms Act, 1955.

Another official in the same district said inter alia that the particulars in regard to the surplus land-owners were obtained from suo moto verification of official land records.

The next question ~~was~~ asked was: "What are the steps taken by you for acquisition of surplus land after knowing and identifying the same?" Majority of the respondents said that steps usually taken are as follows:

- i) Vesting of surplus land in the State by way of settlement proceedings as per the provisions of the WBLR Act, 1955 as amended from time to time.

- ii) Entering upon and taking possession of such vested land, after giving notice to the concerned landlord or raiyat, through such measures as laid down under Sections 19(1) and 10(2) of the WBEA Act and Sections 14S, 14SS and 14T of the WBLR Act, 1955, amended vide the WBLR(Amendment) Act of 1981, viz., by using such force as may be necessary for this purpose, by taking the help of the local police station, etc.

One of the respondents in the Nadia district, however, said that the Land Reforms Department, after being informed of surplus land-holdings, asked the concerned landlord to produce all the papers and documents relating to his property for verification and if any irregularities noticed, necessary steps were taken by the Department. Some of the respondents in the Murshidabad district said that on receipt of information or complaint in regard to surplus land-holdings, the Revenue Officer drew up a proceeding against the concerned landowner under Section 14T of the WBLR Act or Section 6(1) of the WBEA Act and after the verification of official records and other related documents and also giving the landowner or the raiyat an opportunity of being heard, declared the excess lands, if any, vested in the State and took possession of such lands.

Adequate maintenance of the records of surplus land vested in the State as per land reforms enactments constitutes one of the important operational aspects of land reform programme. A question, therefore was asked as to how the records of surplus lands were maintained by the Settlement Department. In reply to this question, the respondents informed that the records of surplus lands were maintained by the Land Reforms Department in Register VIII separately for agricultural and non-agricultural lands as also for lands used for public purposes.

Acquisition of surplus lands alone would not be of much help unless the acquired or vested lands were adequately distributed among the poor and landless families. A question, therefore, was asked as to what criteria were followed by the government in allotting surplus lands to the beneficiaries. According to most of the respondents, the criteria as laid down under Section 49 of the WBLR Act, 1955, amended subsequently vide the WBLR(Amendment) Acts, 1980 and 1981, for settlement of any land which was at the disposal of the State Government(without any premium being charged for it) were followed. These criteria are as under:-

- i) the person must be the resident of the locality where the land is situated;

- ii) he, together with other members of his family, owns no land or less than 1.00 hectare of land used for the purpose of agriculture, one half of the lands cultivated by them as bargadars being taken into account for the purpose of calculating the aggregate of such land;
- iii) in the case of agricultural land, such person intends to bring the land under personal cultivation;
- iv) among the persons eligible for such settlement, preference shall be given to persons belonging to Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe or those who form themselves into a Cooperative Society for the purpose of cultivation;
- v) settlement of land shall not be made in the name of any person or in the name of a member of the family of any person, who is engaged or employed in any business, trade, undertaking, manufacture, calling, service or industrial occupation.

Some of the respondents of both the districts said that the list of vested lands to be distributed was, first of all, verified by the officials of the L.R. Department and then the verified list used to be sent to

the Bhoomi Sahayak Samiti(BSS) of the concerned Gram Panchayat(GP) for recommending the names of eligible beneficiaries of the locality. The recommendations of the BSS or of the Gram Panchayat was subject to approval of the concerned officials of the government, i.e., SDO or DM. One of the respondents in the Nadia district, however, said that following the criteria as laid down in the WBLR Act prospective beneficiaries were identified in a well-organized meeting of the Gram Panchayat attended by the Junior Land Reforms Officer(JLRO) or other concerned officials of the State Government.

One of the respondents in the Murshidabad district informed that the settlement of agricultural lands at the disposal of the State Government was made in accordance with the provisions as laid down under Section 49 of the WBLR Act, 1955, Rule 20A of the WBLR Rules, 1965 and Rules 61-64 of the West Bengal Land Management Manual, 1977. Moreover, orders, circulars and clarifications in this matter were issued by the Board of Revenue from time to time.

It is well-known that apart from the surplus land, i.e., the land owned by a raiyat or a landlord in excess of the ceiling fixed as per the provisions of the law, the big landlords used to have a great chunk of benami

lands in their possession. The officials, therefore, were asked to state how the government machinery located such benami lands. According to the respondents, such lands were located mainly through local information, on-the-spot enquiry, the information received from the Panchayat officials and also the scrutiny of settlement records and other official documents.

Another question that was asked in connection with benami lands was: "What steps does the government take to bring the benami lands under its control or possession?" In reply to this question, the respondents said that the government or the competent authority usually took possession of benami land through legal proceedings and also with the help of the police as and when necessary. One of the respondents in the Murshidabad district said that as per the provisions laid down under Section 44(2)(a) of the WBEA Act, 1953 and Section 14T(3 and 3a) of the WBLR Act, 1955 the Revenue Officer has been empowered to enquire and decide on any question of benami transfer of lands or on any title incidental thereto.

Asked whether the government machinery used to face any resistance from the landlords while taking possession of surplus or benami lands, most of the respondents answered in the affirmative. These respondents

were further asked to explain the nature of such resistance. In reply to this question they said that the landlords usually took shelter in the courts of law as a recourse to temporary resistance. These landlords often ^{succeeded} / in obtaining injunction orders from the courts and thereby ^{retained} / their surplus or benami land for several years. Some of the respondents in the Murshidabad district said that the big landlords sometimes tried to pressure the Revenue Officers to allow conversion of their agricultural lands into non-agricultural lands or orchards so that they could retain more lands than the ceiling limit. They also indented their own men in the garb of fillers or bargadars on their lands and exerted pressure on the Revenue Officers to record their names accordingly.

It is not quite uncommon that even after the distribution of surplus or benami lands among the eligible beneficiaries, the influential landlords tried to dispossess the beneficiaries of the lands allotted to them. A question, therefore, was asked as to whether any follow-up action was taken by the government after the allotment of pattas to the beneficiaries. In reply to this question, most of the respondents said 'yes'. Those who said so were further asked to state whether

there had been constant watch on the part of the government to ensure that the assignees of vested land were not dispossessed of the land and, if so, how. In reply to this question most of them said that the government machinery kept close and constant vigil with the help of the panchayats and, whenever any case of eviction or dispossession came to the knowledge of the concerned department, necessary actions were taken expeditiously by that department with the help of the police as well as the local panchayat. Some of these respondents, however, said that the government machinery did not keep constant vigil and necessary actions were taken by the concerned department of the government only on receipt of any information or complaint of eviction or dispossession. Some of the respondents in the Murshidabad district said that if any patta-holder was dispossessed of his land, re-possession was given quickly by taking up actions as per Section 49(3A) of the WBLR Act read with Rules 20A and 3(b) of the WBLM Manual which empowered the Revenue Officers to send written requisitions to the officer-in-charge of the local police stations for rendering all necessary and lawful assistance to enforce delivery of possession of such lands.

The next question was related to dispossession or transfer of the assigned land out of economic compulsions. When asked about the steps taken by the government against such dispossession or transfer, some of the respondents said, "There is legal restriction on such transfer and, in case of violation of such restriction, both the settlement and the transfer are liable to be annulled under Section 49(2) of the WBLR Act". They further said that if any economic help was required by the assignee for the development of the assigned land or for the improvement of agricultural production on that land he could obtain loan from the Scheduled Bank or Co-operative Society by way of a simple mortgage or a mortgage by deposit of title deed in favour of the said Bank or the Society as per Section 49(1A) of the WBLR Act. Only one respondent in the Nadia district said that after annulment of any illegal transfer of an assigned land, the land in question was re-allotted to other eligible person.

The officials were also asked few open-ended questions relating to mutation process of the lands allotted to the poor people. The first two questions we asked were: "(i) Whether the allotted land is actually measured in presence of the assignee and cultivators of adjoining

fields? (ii) If so, what is the time gap between allotment of patta, measurement of land and handing over its physical possession to the assignee?" In reply to the first question most of the respondents said that physical possession was generally given to the assignees after demarcating the allotted land at the time of delivery of the patta. However, as regards the second question some of the respondents replied that the time gap between the allotment of patta and physical possession of the allotted land was 3 to 6 months while other mentioned the time gap as one month.

Related to the above questions another question was asked as to whether mutation of the assigned land was done suo moto or on request. In reply to this question some of the respondents said that it was done either suo moto, or on request, while some others replied that it was done only suo moto. However, majority of the respondents said that mutation was done only on request. According to them, when pattas were distributed the list of beneficiaries were sent to the Settlement Department with a request to record their names for mutation. Subscribing to the view of majority of official respondents, the beneficiaries informed that mutation used to be completed only on request by the beneficiaries.

The next question was: "How much time does it take in mutation?" According to some respondents, mutation was completed within a maximum period of 6 months. Some other respondents, however, told that mutation is done "expeditiously". Again, a few respondents said that it was done "as early as possible" and did not give any time limit.

Asked about the procedure followed in mutation, most of the respondents replied: "Mutation was done by the Settlement Department after obtaining the list of beneficiaries from the L.R. Circle Office". One of the respondents in the Nadia district, however, said that mutation was done in accordance with the procedure laid down under Section 50 of the WBLR Act. It is stipulated under this section that the Revenue Officer especially empowered by the State Government in this behalf shall maintain up-to-date in the prescribed manner the village records-of-rights by incorporating therein the changes on account of mutation of names as a result of transfer or inheritance and such other causes as necessitate a change in the record-of-rights. It needs to be mentioned here that all JLRDs in the State of West Bengal have been empowered vide Government Notification No.20478L dated August 21, 1975 to discharge, within their respective

jurisdictions, the functions of a Revenue Officer as laid down under this Section.

The next open-ended question that we asked the officials was: "How is the eligibility of a prospective assignee of surplus land as a cultivator determined?" In reply to this question some of the officials in the Murshidabad district said that it was determined on the basis of field-enquiry. They further said that in case non-cultivable land were to be distributed, field enquiry was made in order to determine whether or not the prospective allottee would be able to convert non-cultivable land into cultivable one. The allottees in such cases were given help from the centrally sponsored schemes for the development of their lands.

It goes without saying that the principal objective of any progressive land reforms policy is to bring about improvement in the economic conditions of the poor landless labourers. Some open-ended questions were, therefore, asked in order to assess whether or not the distribution of vested lands among these landless had really resulted in any such improvement. At the outset, we asked the officials to state whether they knew it that the surplus land has been assigned to the landless with a hope to improve

their economic conditions. In reply to this query, all of them replied in the affirmative. We then asked: "Do you feel that their economic condition had actually ^{been} improved?" Since they again replied in the affirmative, we asked: "What, according to you, were the indicators of their improved economic conditions?" According to the respondents, the improvement in the economic conditions of the assignees of vested lands could be assessed in terms of:-

- i) their housing condition (e.g., many of them who lived in katcha house before obtaining vested lands were now living in pacca house or in katcha house having the roof made of tiles);
- ii) their ability to use electricity, radio and improved kinds of utensils;
- iii) their ability to have better feeding and clothing;
- iv) their ability to send children to schools for education, etc.;
- v) their ability to repay the government or bank loans within the due time; and
- vi) their self-sufficiency in procurement of agricultural implements for cultivation of their lands.

There is a wide-spread feeling that some assignees did not want to cultivate the land allotted to them and

preferred to dispose it off immediately after getting it. The officials were, therefore, asked to state how far this view was correct in their opinion. In response to this query some of them said that such view was "not at all correct" while others were of the opinion that it was "correct to some extent". Those who expressed the later view were again asked as to what steps they would suggest so that such undesirable transfer could be prevented and these assignees could not take any advantage in future from the land reforms programme. The respondents suggested the following:-

- i) The list of such persons should be kept in local panchayat offices to ensure that they were not assigned any land in future;
- ii) necessary care should be taken in proper selection of beneficiaries;
- iii) before allotting any surplus land to a person, it should be ascertained whether the allottee was actually willing to cultivate the land;
- iv) persons residing far away from the location of land to be distributed should not be allotted such lands;
- v) adequate penal measures required to be provided to prevent such undesirable transfer.

One of the respondents in the Murshidabad district suggested that sample survey of previous five years on the lands of old assignees should be made in order to ascertain the percentage of allottees who disposed of allotted lands and the factors responsible for such disposal. This, according to him, would be of immense help in the prevention of undesirable transfer of allotted lands and the adequate selection of beneficiaries for the assignment of surplus lands in future.

The officials were further asked to suggest measures for effective implementation of the ceiling provisions under the existing Land Reforms Act. In reply to this question, some of the officials in the Murshidabad district suggested the introduction of Land Pass Book for the familywise land holdings containing all necessary details such as P.S./mouza, khatian number, plot number, total area, owners' share, classification of land as per physical utilization, number of crops produced, availability of irrigational facility, sources of ownership and so on. The verification of these pass books, according to these officials, would enable the government to identify and forfeit the left-out or omitted plots and distribute them to the poor and landless. Some of the respondents in this district further suggested an extension of the scope of the provision as laid down under Section 51(5) of the

WBLR Act, 1955 so that there should be a separate khatian for each raiyat and the khatian should include all lands held by such raiyat in a compact block (where he resides for the major period of the year) instead of one mouza only. One of the respondents in this district suggested that the movement of the big landholders against vesting should be restricted to the revenue courts only and adequate machinery should be evolved for speedy disposal of such cases.

Asked to express their personal views about the steps which should be taken in future for distribution of land to the poor and landless for bringing about real improvement in their economic conditions most of the respondents said that the existing ceiling limit for assigning land to the poor landless should be increased. One of the respondents in the Nadia district specifically said that the ceiling limit should be increased so that at least 2 acres of land was provided to the deserving beneficiary. Again, some of the respondents in the Murshidabad district suggested that the ceiling limit should be fixed up at the rate of 2 acres per person and 16 acres per family excluding tea gardens, orchards, etc. One of the respondents in this district was of the view that each cultivator should be given at least one hectare of land alongwith all necessary

agricultural implements. Another respondent suggested that adequate emphasis should be given on cooperative farming at the time of distribution of surplus lands in future.

It is well known that as per the provisions laid down under the existing land reforms enactments as well as the land reforms policy of the State Government surplus land vested in the State should to be distributed among the backward landless persons and also the poor falling below the poverty line. But, what criteria are adopted when in a particular area the number of eligible peasants is found to be more than the quantity of lands available for distribution? In such cases, according to most of the respondents, the distribution is made in accordance with the proportion of the lands available for distribution so that maximum number of poor and downtrodden peasants are benefitted. Perhaps this is why we observed during our field visits that the quantity of land allotted to the deserving peasants was, in most cases, far from the minimum requirement for an economic holding of agricultural land.

Mysore and Tumkur Districts: Karnataka

The first two open-ended questions that we asked the officials in Mysore and Tumkur Districts of Karnataka were related to the Bhoodan Movement led by Acharya Binova Bhave in the fifties. In reply to the first question as to whether they knew about this Movement, all but one in Tumkur District answered in the affirmative. Those who replied in the affirmative were further asked to express their view as to whether the Movement had been successful as an effective land reform programme. Almost all of them unananimously said that the Movement had been a failure. The reason cited for the failure was also identical, viz., that the lands were transferred only on paper while the donor-landlords continued to retain actual possession. A respondent in Tumkur District said that the popular support initially extended to the Movement was not backed up subsequently by any follow-up machinery. Again, another respondent in Mysore District was of the view that no change could be brought about without application of force, and since this Movement was based on voluntary donation of lands, it could not ultimately achieve any considerable success.

Asked as to whether or not the legislation regarding ceiling on land had been successful throughout the country, all respondents in Mysore District and only 9 out of 20 respondents in Tumkur District gave a negative reply while the remaining 11 respondents in Tumkur District answered in the affirmative. Those who felt that the legislation had been a failure attributed this to insincerity on the part of the Government and lack of political will. Again, while 9 respondents in Tumkur District were of the view that the surplus lands remained under the possession of the landholder through benami transactions, only one out of the remaining 11 respondents in that District categorically said that the surplus lands had been handed over to the Government not just on paper but in reality too. A respondent in this District opined that land ceiling legislations had been effectively implemented only in West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. There may be some exaggeration in this statement, but it poignantly speaks a volume about the fate of land ceiling legislations in other States.

The next open-ended question that we asked them was: "How do you come to know about the landlords having surplus lands in their possession?" In reply to this question most of the respondents in Tumkur District ignorantly said that the owners of surplus lands should be identified strictly according to the law without fear or favour. Our question,

however, was not about what ought to be, but rather what or how it is. This kind of ignorance of the officials who are directly involved in land reforms has certainly been very distressing. Nevertheless, a large number of respondents in Mysore District said that they obtained such information through (i) verification of land records as well as records of possession, and (ii) verification of the declaration made by the owners of surplus lands under Section 66 of the Karnataka Land Reforms Act(KLRA), 1961. According to the provisions laid down in this Section, every person holding ten acres or more of lands having facilities for irrigation, twenty acres or more of lands on which paddy crop can be grown with the help of rain water, or forty acres or more of lands classified as dry but not having any irrigation facilities as also every person holding land in excess of the ceiling area as specified in this Act shall furnish a declaration to the concerned Tahsildar containing the following particulars, namely:-

- i) particulars of all the lands;
- ii) particulars of the members of the family;
- iii) such other particulars as may be prescribed.

Some of the officials in Mysore District said that apart from the above sources, they also received necessary information pertaining to the surplus landholders

through the terminal enquiry from the Revenue Inspector of the respective area who frequently visited the villages under their jurisdiction.

The next open-ended question that we asked the officials of both the Districts was: "What are the steps taken by you for acquisition of surplus land after knowing and identifying the same?" According to the majority of the respondents, steps usually taken are as follows:-

- i) imposition of penalty extending to five hundred rupees in accordance with the provisions laid down in Section 66A of the KLR Act, 1961 either for furnishing a false declaration or for failure to furnish a declaration as required by Section 66 of the said Act;
- ii) following the imposition of penalty by order, the Tahsildar may require the person who fails without reasonable cause to furnish the said declaration within the time specified in Section 66 or furnishes a false declaration to submit a true and correct statement complete in all particulars within a period of one month from the date of service of the order;

- iii) vesting of surplus lands held by such person in the State Government in case he fails to comply with the said order within the time granted;
- iv) referring of certain cases as laid down in Section 67 of the KLR Act, 1961 to the Tribunal for settlement and, subject to the enquiry by the Tribunal and its order, the person holding surplus lands shall be liable to surrender such extent of land as will, after such surrender, bring the total extent of land retained by him to the extent of the ceiling limit.

Adequate maintenance of the records of surplus lands, as mentioned earlier, constitutes one of the important operational aspects of land reform programme. A question was, therefore, asked as to how the records of surplus lands vested in the State Government were maintained by the Land Reforms/Settlement Department. None of the respondents in Mysore District could give any answer to this important question, while the answers given by the officials in other District were full of confusion and contradiction. Four out of the twenty officials in Tumkur District naively said that since surplus lands had already been distributed there was no need of

maintaining such records. Seven other respondents could not give any answer, while six officials said that a Register had been maintained for this purpose. The remaining three respondents could not follow the question and expressed dissatisfaction in the existing system of maintaining such records.

Adequate distribution of surplus lands is the key to the success of any land reform programme. A question was, therefore, asked as to what criteria were followed by the government in allotting surplus lands to the peasants. In reply to this question, some of the respondents in Tumkur District referred to the Land Grants Rules, 1969. Other respondents in this District and also most of the respondents in Mysore District referred to the criteria as laid down under Section 77 of the KLR Act, 1961. This Section states that subject to reservation of fifty per cent thereof grant to persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and subject to such restrictions and conditions as may be prescribed in this behalf, surplus land shall be granted to the following persons:-

- i) Dispossessed tenants who are not registered as occupants;
- ii) Displaced tenants having no land;
- iii) Landless agricultural labourers;

- iv) Landless persons and ex-Military personnel whose gross annual income does not exceed rupees two thousand;
- v) Released bonded labourers;
- vi) Other persons residing in villages in the same Panchayat and whose gross annual income does not exceed rupees two thousand.

Asked as to whether any camp was organized to identify the beneficiaries, 17 officials in Tumkur District replied in the affirmative while 3 answered in the negative. Two out of these three officials said that they usually followed the list prepared by the DRDA, while the other official said this was not so.

It is well-known that the surplus land apart, the big landlords also possess a great chunk of benami lands. The officials were, therefore, asked to state how the government machinery located benami lands. While some respondents could not answer this question, most of other said that benami lands were located on the basis of land records, local enquiry and on-the-spot survey.

Another question that was asked in connection with benami lands was: "What steps does the government take to bring the benami lands under its control or possession?" Again, some of the officials either could not give any reply

or gave a vague reply. Other respondents said that necessary legal actions such as eviction proceedings were carried out by the Government in such cases as per the provisions of the KLR Act, 1961. One official in Tumkur District, however, said that no such proceedings were actually initiated.

The next two questions were related to the nature of resistance from the landlords. The officials in both the Districts were asked to state, first of all, whether the government machinery had to face any resistance from the landlords while taking possession of surplus or benami lands. Most of the respondents answered in the affirmative, and were subsequently asked to explain the nature of such resistance. In reply to the later query, they said that the landlords, taking advantage of the flaws in land reforms legislation, usually sought protection from the judiciary as a recourse to temporary resistance and often managed to get court injunction issued in their favour.

It is often alleged that benami land apart, there is a large quantity of government lands known as Gair Majurua Aam and Gair Majurua Khas which too remains under the unauthorized possession of the powerful landlords in rural areas. In order to ascertain whether or not such allegation has any basis the officials in Tumkur District were asked

three pertinent questions. The first question that we asked them was: "Do you have any idea of unauthorized possession of government lands known as Gair Majurua Aam and Gair Majurua Khas by the powerful landlords of the locality?" Only 4 out of 20 officials answered in the affirmative and, while doing so, two of them made an interesting and significant observation. Such lands, according to them, had been vested with the village Panchayats for adequate utilization and, since the Panchayats had usually been controlled by the influential landlords of the locality it was not quite unlikely that such lands were often illegally possessed and enjoyed by these unscrupulous landlords. This was indeed an interesting comment on the 'community' character of Panchayati Raj. None of the officials, however, could give a suitable reply to our second question as to the steps taken by the government to bring such lands under its own control. As regards the third question as to whether or not the government officials took money from these landlords and allowed such unauthorized possession of Gair Majurua lands to continue, only one respondent replied in the affirmative while one more did not answer. All the other 18 officials replied in the negative and said that this was essentially a malicious propaganda just to malign the bureaucracy.

Asked as to whether any follow-up actions were taken after allotment of pattas to the beneficiaries, most of the officials in Mysore District and all but one officials in Tumkur District answered in the affirmative. They were further asked to state whether there had been constant watch on the part of the government to ensure that the assignees of land were not dispossessed of the land and, if so, how. In reply to the first part of this question, most of the respondents said 'yes'. As regards the second part of the query, however, the officials in Tumkur District failed to give any clear answer. They said very naively that the beneficiaries could not dispose of the lands till a period of 15 years from the date of issue of the patta as per the Land Grant Rules of the State. The officials in Mysore District appeared to have answered the question more meaningfully. They said that it was at the lower level where the administration sought to keep constant watch through the revenue officials to ensure that the beneficiaries were not dispossessed of the lands allotted to them either forcibly or voluntarily by way of sale or transfer to other persons within a period of 15 years from the date of issue of the patta. Any such sale or transfer within this period, as these officials pointed out further, could not be registered in the Sub-Registrar's Office.

The officials in both the Districts were also asked few open-ended questions pertaining to mutation process of the assigned lands. The first two questions that we asked them in this connection were: "(i) Are the allotted lands actually measured in presence of the assignees and cultivators of adjoining fields? (ii) If so, what is the time gap between allotment of patte, measurement of land and handing over its physical possession to the assignee?" As regards the first question, only one official in Tumkur District did not respond, while the two officials replied in the negative, saying that this task had been assigned to the Tahsildar who had to do multifarious odd jobs which went far beyond enforcing land reforms. All other officials in this District and most of the respondents in Mysore District, however, answered in the affirmative and said that before giving physical possession as per the land grant certificate issued to a beneficiary the land assigned to him had got to be measured and the boundary of land demarcated in presence of himself and the cultivators of adjoining lands. In reply to the second question 5 officials in Tumkur District said "don't know" and 3 officials said "no time limit". Again 4 respondents in this District specified the time gap as 6 months, while one said that it varied from 6 months to 10 years. The

remaining 7 respondents in this District were in agreement with most of the respondents in Mysore District who said that the time gap used to be not more than 1 to 2 months although in some cases it could be extended to even much longer period for varied reasons.

Asked as to whether mutation of the assigned land was done suo moto or on request, most of the respondents said that it was sometimes done suo moto and sometimes on request. One official in Tumkur District, however, said that despite Government instructions, mutations were not being effected suo moto. Again, there were some officials who said that mutations were done suo moto only.

Related to the above query a question was also asked as to how much time was required for mutation in favour of the assignee. There was no uniform reply and the time mentioned by the respondents varied between 15 days and 3 months.

Asked about the procedure followed in mutation, none of the respondents could give any suitable reply. Whatever little had been ascertained from their reply perhaps was that the mutation process usually started on receipt of a written request from the assignee and completed with the opening of a Khata in the assignee's name on the basis of the land grant certificate issued to him.

It is often alleged that in most cases the lands assigned to the poor cultivators are of inferior quality. We, therefore, asked the officials some open-ended questions in order to assess whether there was any basis for such allegation. The first question that we asked the officials only in Tumkur District was: "Is it true that the assigned lands are generally unfit for cultivation?" In reply to this query, 5 respondents refused to make any comment, while only 3 officials agreed that the assigned lands were generally of an inferior quality. The remaining 12 respondents simply said that this was a matter looked into by the concerned officials of the Agriculture Department. The second question that we asked the officials in Mysore District was: "How is it determined whether the assigned surplus lands are unfit for cultivation or not?" In reply to this query, most of the respondents said that this was determined by testing the soil of the assigned land with the help of concerned officials or experts of the Agriculture Department.

It goes without saying that an increase in agricultural productivity depends much upon adequate supply of agricultural inputs and various other socio-economic factors. We, therefore, asked the officials in Tumkur District three pertinent questions. The questions as well

as the responses were as follows:-

- i) are adequate agricultural inputs like seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, etc., provided to assignees of surplus ceiling land?,
- ii) are loans and subsidies given to the assignees for purchase of bullocks or he-buffalos for agricultural work?,
- iii) are assignees given protection against the high-handedness of the dominant sections of the society viz., protection of their agricultural field and safe arrival of foodgrains in their houses after the harvest?

In reply to our above mentioned pointed queries around 50 per cent of the sample officials of Tumkur District said that to increase agricultural product the government machinery tried its best to provide agricultural inputs like seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, loans and subsidy for agricultural purposes and to improve the socio-economic condition of assignees of surplus ceiling land. However, around 40 per cent sample officials replied in negative and explained that since they were not concerned with I.R.D. Programmes they could not exactly say as to whether such facilities were provided to the beneficiaries of surplus ceiling land?

Around 10 per cent sample officials did not respond to these queries. Again, the same set of 50 per cent officials replied that they also tried to provide protection to the beneficiaries of surplus ceiling land against the high handedness of dominant section of the society and to ensure that the harvest returns reach to the houses of beneficiaries safely.

There is no denying that the success of any land reforms programme would ultimately hang upon the improvement achieved in the economic conditions of the beneficiaries. Some open-ended questions were, therefore, asked in order to assess whether or not the distribution of vested lands among the poor landless peasants had really resulted in any such improvement. At the outset, the officials in both the Districts were asked to state whether they knew it that the surplus lands had been assigned to the landless peasants with a hope to improve their economic conditions. In response to this query, all of them answered in the affirmative. We then asked them to state whether they felt that the assignees' economic conditions had really been improved. In response to this query, all but two officials in Tumkur District who preferred to be kept quiet answered in the affirmative. These officials were then asked: "What, according to you,

are the indicators for assessment of their improved economic conditions?" Taking together various responses from these officials, the improvement in the assignees' economic conditions could be assessed in terms of:-

- i) their existing living conditions which appeared to be better than what they had been earlier prior to distribution of surplus lands;
- ii) their ability to have better diet (two square meals a day) and clothing;
- iii) their ability to send children to school for education.

The next two questions were put before the officials in Tumkur District only. The first question was: "Do the Government maintain any time-schedule data in regard to the assignees' economic conditions?" Six respondents replied in the affirmative, while one did not answer and the remaining 13 officials said 'No'. Those who answered in the affirmative were further asked to state whether they thought that such data were correct and full proof. All of them again replied in the affirmative.

There is a wide-spread feeling that the assignees are often dispossessed of assigned lands either voluntarily out of economic compulsions or forcibly by the erstwhile landlords or rich and influential persons of the locality. In

order to assess whether there was any truth in it we asked the officials some pertinent questions. At the outset, we wanted to know whether any such dispossession really occurred or not. As many as 12 respondents in Tumkur District were of the view that this did not really take place. The remaining 8 respondents who replied in the affirmative were further asked to state whether dispossession resulted from economic compulsion or use of force. In reply to this query, 6 respondents said that dispossession occurred due to economic compulsion, while 2 respondents opined that dispossession resulted from either economic compulsion or use of force.

The next question that we asked in the above context was: "What steps do the Government take to restrain voluntary as well as forcible dispossession?" In reply to this query, 2 officials in Tumkur District said that in case of forcible dispossession, eviction proceedings were drawn by the Government in accordance with the provisions laid down in the Karnataka Land Reforms Act, 1961. Some of the respondents in Mysore District said, on the other hand, that police protection was given to the assignees if needed, for restoration of possession. These respondents further said that if dispossession occurred due to economic compulsion, the assignees were provided with, as far as possible, financial assistance, loans and also agricultural implements

under Negibe Bhagya Scheme. Asked whether the governmental measures to improve the economic conditions of the assignees had brought about the desired results, 7 officials in Tumkur District replied in the affirmative and said that the assignees were now able to grow more crops.

There is another view of the problem that some assignees are not really keen to cultivate the assigned land and prefer to dispose it of immediately after allotment. The officials in both the Districts were, therefore, asked to state how far this view was correct. In response to this query, most of the officials said that such view was "correct to some extent", and only a very few respondents were of the opinion that it was "not at all correct". Those who expressed the former view were further asked to suggest certain measures which could prevent such undesirable transfer of lands and restrain the unwilling persons from taking any undue advantage from land reforms programme in future. The respondents suggested certain measures as follows:-

- i) Necessary care should be taken so that only actual cultivators, irrespective of any caste or class considerations, are allotted surplus lands;
- ii) surplus lands should be allotted only after thorough enquiry so that only those who intend

to cultivate the lands get the benefit of land grants programme;

- iii) surplus lands should be granted only to those poor landless cultivators who reside nearest to the location of the lands to be distributed.

The officials in Tumkur District were further asked to suggest measures for effective implementation of land reforms legislation. The following is a summary of recommendations made by these officials:-

- i) Land should be assigned only to those who are willing to cultivate it;
- ii) Land should be measured properly before assignment and the assignees be given physical possession of the lands;
- iii) the needy assignees should be given economic and other necessary assistance soon after the land grants;
- iv) irrigation facilities should be provided at the cost of the Government;
- v) the assignees should be protected from the vested interests of the richer and influential sections of the society.

One official said: "It is the understanding of the spirit of law which counts more than the words used in law".

Asked to express their personal views about the economic prospects of the assignees of ceiling lands, most of the respondents in both the Districts said that since in most cases the quantity of land assigned was of inferior quality and that too, far from the minimum requirement for an economic holding of agricultural land, economic prospects of the assignees appeared to be very bleak. However, they felt that with proper guidance and direct assistance, in the form of, say, irrigation facilities and supply of seeds, manure and agricultural implements, by the Government the lot of the assignees would surely improve. They further suggested that the Taluk level committees should be set up to make periodical evaluation of the economic conditions of the assignees of ceiling lands and take appropriate steps to meet their basic requirements for their economic improvement through increased agricultural productivity.

The last question that we asked the officials in both the Districts was: "What criteria are adopted when in a particular area the number of eligible peasants as per the provisions laid down in the Land Reforms Act of the State becomes more than the quantity of land available for distribution?" In such cases, according to most of the respondents, the distribution is made in accordance

with the criteria laid down under Section 77 of the Karnataka Land Reforms Act, 1961 with the broad objective of giving the available lands to as much eligible cultivators as possible. Perhaps this is why we observed here, as we did in West Bengal, that the quantity of land assigned to the deserving or eligible peasants was, in most cases, less than the quantity required for an economic holding of agricultural land.

As has already been mentioned in the introductory chapter, the officials of Haryana (Bhiwani and Narnaul Districts) did not fill up our questionnaire, and the Research Team was deprived of their opinion. However, during the course of informal discussion it was observed that every thing in regard to Land Reforms in Haryana was in mess. It was disheartening to note that the functionaries at and below the district level in Haryana even did not know the structure of Revenue Department in their state. We are sorry that due to non-cooperation on the part of officials of Haryana we could not incorporate their opinion in the present chapter.

CHAPTER-IV

THE BENEFICIARIES AND THEIR ECONOMIC CONDITION

The main thrust of the present study is to evaluate the economic condition of the beneficiaries of surplus ceiling land in selected states of the Indian Republic. In a traditional but fast changing society like ours the affluence determines the social status of an individual. Right since independence several attempts have been made by the government to improve the socio-economic condition of the down-trodden sections of the rural society, particularly poorest of the poor. Land reform programme and specially assigning of surplus ceiling land to the landless and agricultural labourers is one of such measures. In regard to assigning surplus ceiling land to the landless and the agricultural labourers the major problems relate to: whether the surplus ceiling lands are actually assigned to the beneficiaries and whether they are allowed to cultivate such lands without any fear or the landed-aristocracy forces them to dispossess. The next important point is whether the land is assigned only on paper or physical possession is given to the beneficiaries. Closely related to it is whether or not the land reform measures have been inter-linked with Integrated Rural Development Programme. These are some of the important factors which may help or hinder in

improving the socio-economic condition of the assignees of ceiling land. While making the field survey of the selected three states, we made a point to collect time scheduled data in regard to increase or decrease in assets of beneficiaries of surplus ceiling land. Side by side we also tried to assess the awareness and consciousness of the beneficiaries in regard to land reform measures. It is because deriving benefits from such programmes depends much on the awareness and consciousness of the beneficiaries.

Keeping these facts in view, we prepared a very exhaustive questionnaire for the beneficiaries. The first part of the questionnaire deals with important facts in regard to land reforms and the second part deals with their economic condition. In second part questions were framed in such a way ^{that} the beneficiaries could tell about ^{and after} their economic conditions before/becoming the beneficiaries.

In the first part some questions like knowledge about land ceiling, criteria of land ceiling, government steps towards acquiring surplus land from the landlords, criteria for distributing the surplus land, distribution of patta, time schedule for distributing the patta, completion of mutation, demarcation of the plot, favouratism in distributing the surplus land, follow up action, inter-linking the land reforms with Integrated

Rural Development Programmes, forceful dispossession of land, protection provided by the government, letting-out the surplus land for share cropping by the beneficiaries, selling out the land by the beneficiaries etc. were asked to the selected beneficiaries.

It is disheartening to note that beneficiaries of all the three states either did not know about the land reform measures or were evasive in their reply. In 90% cases in all the three states, the sample respondents drew a blank on this account and did not reply to our pointed queries. Only in 10% cases the beneficiaries told that after 1971 and that too after the slogan "Garibi Hataao" (Remove Poverty) given by Lt. Mrs. Indira Gandhi, some steps were taken in regard to assigning the surplus land to the landless and the agricultural labourers or share croppers. But they had no knowledge of the criteria of determining the surplus ceiling land. Similarly on other points too they did not give any categorical reply.

However, we had to extract maximum facts from the beneficiaries which they were not ready to provide. As such instead of depending on printed schedule we shifted to some other methods called informal discussion. During the course of informal discussion they disclosed many facts which are presented in succeeding pages.

A negligible but out-spoken section of sample respondents said that even if the lands were distributed to genuine beneficiaries the landed aristocracy would not allow them to take the formal possession of the land. In some cases if the possession was given the land assigned was so ^{meagre} / that beneficiaries had hardly any interest in cultivating that land because infrastructural facilities and agricultural inputs were not provided to them. Individually they were not in a position to save money for cultivation as they had to depend for their two square meals on wage earning. Not more than this could be extracted from the beneficiaries with the help of the questionnaire. However, more facts came to our notice during the course of informal discussion with the beneficiaries. The information gathered through the informal discussion have been presented in a separate chapter entitled "Field Notes and Observations".

However, our basic concern was to examine and assess the economic condition of those beneficiaries who had actually been given the physical possession of the land and were cultivating it. To assess this, we tried to enquire about their assets like cattles, ornaments, change in dress habits, change in food habits, etc. Even on this account the beneficiaries were not clear in their

reply and tried to conceal some facts. The impression of the research team was that beneficiaries might have thought that the Research Team might have come to their places to provide some relief in the form of loan and subsidy. As such, to extract the real facts the Research Team developed good rapport with the beneficiaries and entered into the physical household survey by going to their places and without making them conscious and entering into their houses to see the state of affairs with their waked eyes. The facts collected through these means are presented below both in tabular and explanatory form.

First of all, we wanted to know whether there was substantive improvement in their food habits. Beneficiaries of West Bengal reported that there was a very very marginal improvement in their food items. When enquired about the reasons, the beneficiaries informed that a very small chunk of land was allotted to them and most of them did not cultivate it due to the lack of financial resources. Even if they cultivate, the land was so small that it could provide the foodgrains for their families hardly for two months. Most of the time they had to depend for the maintenance of their families on wage earning. Some of them informed that the food items had improved in the

sense that, due to new innovations in agriculture and high yielding varieties of seeds, the rough foodgrains were hardly grown. These days rice and wheat are the two main crops which a cultivator generally sow. Naturally the beneficiaries, in place of rough food items, take rice and wheat. However, most of the beneficiaries who depend for their livelihood on wage earning reported that the rough food items were sold in the market on cheap prices, as such to maintain themselves within their means, they generally used to take rough food items. On the whole the Research Team was of the impression that, there had been certainly some improvement in the food items of the beneficiaries of surplus ceiling land but, by and large, it was on the past pattern. The only remarkable change was that they were in a position to fill their belly ^{at least} with rough food items which was not possible before they could join the group of beneficiaries of surplus ceiling land.

Almost the same situation prevailed in Karnataka too. However, the beneficiaries of West Bengal were slightly in better off position in the sense that whatever small chunk of land was assigned to them in more than 90% cases they were in actual possession of the land.

Unfortunately, in Karnataka, in more than 70% cases actual possession of land was not given to them. It was because of the fact that either the land assigned was under litigation or the land was assigned only on paper. In some cases the beneficiaries could not take the physical possession of the land as they had to pay some money to the government for the land which they were not in a position to pay. Consequently, there had been neither any improvement nor any addition to their food items. The tale of economic distress was apparently visible on their faces and their health giving a skeleton look substantiated the fact. However, the Research Team without any preappointed time, with their consent, entered into their mud built houses or Jhuggies and had a test of the food items made of rough foodgrains and that too without any vegetable or pulses. Even today they eat Raggi, or other rough foodgrains with salt, onion and green chilly.

In contrast to West Bengal and Karnataka the beneficiaries of Haryana had ^{been able to} substantially improve their food items. Apart from Bazra and other rough foodgrains, wheat, barley, gram etc. formed part of their food items. Most of them used to take Curd/Lassi(Chhanch) as also the

vegetables. Chhanch and Curd are easily available to most of them as they had their own cows and buffalos. It is because of the fact that Haryana has a different system of assigning the land. Most of the beneficiaries who had been assigned surplus ceiling land had already 2 to 10 acres of land of their own to their credit. And they were striving hard to have ^{used} modern equipments of agriculture like tube-wells, tractors, thrashers, improved variety of seeds, chemical fertilizers, pesticides etc. In such a healthy situation their food items were bound to improve.

After enquiring into the food items of the beneficiaries of selected states we tried to assess the assets of the beneficiaries on the basis of time-scheduled data as to whether they had improved their assets after becoming the beneficiaries. The assets like animals, utensils, cloths, ornaments, footwear, other household items etc. were assessed on the basis of time-scheduled data.

First of all, we wanted to know that what number of cattles they had to their credit before becoming the beneficiaries and what additions they had made after becoming beneficiaries? The findings are presented in table-4.1.

Table-4.1

Q.37(a) Did you possess cattle before becoming the beneficiary. If not whether you have possessed it after becoming beneficiary.

N=40 for each district

HARYANA								
Narnaul District					Bhiwani District			
Items	Before becoming the beneficiary		After becoming the beneficiary		Before becoming the beneficiary		After becoming the beneficiary	
	Responses	Percentage	Responses	Percentage	Responses	Percentage	Responses	Percentage
Cow	24	60%	26	65%	12	30%	14	35%
Buffalo	23	57.5%	26	65%	20	50%	28	70%
Bull	17	42.5%	14	35%	14	35%	20	50%
Camel	10	25%	8	20%	6	15%	4	10%
Goat	-	-	10	25%	8	20%	9	22.5%
Tractor	-	-	6	15%	-	-	-	-

KARNATAKA								
Mysore District					Tumkur District			
Goat	-	-	6	15%	2	5%	1	2.5%
Sheep	4	10%	8	20%	1	2.5%	1	2.5%
Bull	-	-	4	10%	-	-	7	17.5%
Buffalo	4	10%	10	25%	1	2.5%	6	15%
Hen	2	5%	4	10%	-	-	3	7.5%
Cow	-	-	12	30%	1	2.5%	13	32.5%

WEST BENGAL								
Nadia District					Murshidabad District			
Goat	17	42.5%	24	60%	6	15%	16	40%
Cow	4	10%	8	20%	2	5%	12	30%
Hen	18	45%	26	65%	8	20%	20	50%
Buffalo	1	2.5%	3	7.5%	2	5%	4	10%
Duck	-	-	-	-	1	2.5%	2	5%

Table-4.1 shows that in Marnaul District of Haryana 60% beneficiaries had Cows, 57% Buffalos, 42% Bull and 25% Camels to their credit before becoming the beneficiaries. After becoming the beneficiaries the percentage was: 65% Cows, 65% Buffalos, 35% Bull, 20% Camel, 25% Goats, 15% Tractor. Similarly in Bhiwani District the beneficiaries had 30% Cows, 50% Buffalos, 35% Bulls, 15% Camel and 20% Goats before the land was assigned to them. The present position was 35% Cows, 70% Buffalos, 50% Bulls, 10% Camel, 25% Goats. This clearly indicates that the beneficiaries of both the districts of Haryana, had improved their cattle wealth after becoming the beneficiaries of the surplus ceiling land. Though the improvement was not quite substantial even then it had shown a positive sign of improvement.

In case of Karnataka in Mysore district, 10% beneficiaries had Sheeps, 10% Buffalos, and 5% Hens before becoming the beneficiaries. After becoming the beneficiaries the position was as follows: 15% Goats, 20% Sheeps, 10% Bulls, 25% Buffalos, 10% Hens, and 30% Cows. Similarly in case of Tumkur District, before becoming beneficiaries the cattle wealth was: 5% Goats, 2.5% Sheeps, 2.5% Buffalos,

and 2.5% Cows. The present position was: 2.5% Goats, 2.5% Sheeps, 17.5% Bulls, 15% Buffaloes, 7.5% Hens, and 32.5% Cows. Here we also see that there was a rising trend in cattle wealth of the beneficiaries after having the surplus ceiling land assigned to them.

The position of West Bengal in both the districts of Nadia and Murshidabad has also a rising trend in acquiring the cattle wealth(see Table-4.1).

Table-4.2

Q.37(b) Household utensils

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

<u>Narnaul District</u>					<u>Bhiwani District</u>			
		Before becoming the beneficiary	After becoming the beneficiary		Before becoming the beneficiary		After becoming the beneficiary	
Items	Responses	Percentage	Responses	Percentage	Responses	Percentage	Responses	Percentage
Utensils of Mud	34	85%	36	90%	32	80%	32	80%
Aluminium	22	55%	28	70%	22	55%	32	80%
Bronze	24	60%	22	55%	10	25%	18	45%
Brass	16	40%	20	50%	12	30%	18	45%
Steel	4	10%	-	-	-	-	22	55%

KARNATAKA

<u>Mysore District</u>					<u>Tumkur District</u>			
Utensils of Mud	34	85%	34	85%	36	90%	37	92.5%
Aluminium	24	60%	34	85%	10	25%	26	65%
Bronze	-	-	6	15%	-	-	1	2.5%
Brass	-	-	4	10%	-	-	1	2.5%
Steel	6	15%	18	45%	-	-	5	12.5%

WEST BENGAL

<u>Nadia District</u>					<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
Utensils of Mud	35	87.5%	37	92.5%	24	60%	28	70%
Aluminium	30	75%	36	90%	30	75%	40	100%
Bronze	9	22.5%	9	22.5%	5	12.5%	10	25%
Brass	-	-	2	5%	2	5%	4	10%
Steel	8	20%	11	27.5%	7	17.5%	12	30%

After enquiring into the cattle wealth we wanted to know whether the beneficiaries of all the three selected states had acquired better utensils. Again it is heartening to note that in all the three states and six districts under study the beneficiaries had the improved qualities of utensils in their houses. Two explanations could be given to this rising trend. Either the beneficiaries had actually improved their economic condition and were in a position to purchase better qualities of utensils or due to the impact of modernization and urbanization and contact with nearby towns and cities, they might have taken loans and purchased the sophisticated and good qualities of utensils (see table-4.2). In course of informal discussion the beneficiaries of all the three states admitted that previously they used to utilise mud-made utensils which were not durable and it was also very difficult to clean them. Moreover, in recent years the prices of mud-made utensils had also gone high. In such a situation, by making ^{meager} saving they opted for durable and clean utensils.

Table-4.3

Q.37(c) Clothing

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Items	<u>Narnaul District</u>				<u>Bhiwani District</u>			
	Before becoming the beneficiary		After becoming the beneficiary		Before becoming the beneficiary		After becoming the beneficiary	
	Responses	Percentage	Responses	Percentage	Responses	Percentage	Responses	Percentage
Handloom	4	10%	6	15%	8	20%	10	25%
Khadi	34	85%	36	90%	28	70%	28	70%
Mill	10	25%	12	30%	24	60%	24	60%
Terecott	-	-	28	70%	4	10%	30	75%
Woollen	-	-	15	37.5%	-	-	12	30%

KARNATAKA

	<u>Mysore District</u>				<u>Tumkur District</u>			
	Responses	Percentage	Responses	Percentage	Responses	Percentage	Responses	Percentage
Handloom	12	30%	10	25%	6	15%	6	15%
Khadi	12	30%	12	30%	-	-	-	-
Mill	24	60%	30	75%	36	90%	38	95%
Terecott	4	10%	22	55%	20	50%	20	50%
Woollen	-	-	4	10%	-	-	-	-
Silk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

WEST BENGAL

	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Responses	Percentage	Responses	Percentage	Responses	Percentage	Responses	Percentage
Handloom	24	60%	26	65%	26	65%	21	52.5%
Khadi	20	50%	26	65%	13	32.5%	18	45%
Mill	9	22.5%	9	22.5%	16	40%	20	50%
Terecott	-	-	20	50%	7	17.5%	20	50%
Woollen	-	-	8	20%	-	-	2	5%
Silk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Next to this we tried to enquire whether the beneficiaries of surplus ceiling land had ^{been able to} improve their clothing assets. In this regard to substantive improvement was noticed in case of beneficiaries of all the three states. (see Table-4.3).

A deeper probe into the problem revealed that beneficiaries opted for better clothing on account of its durability. Previously they used to wear either handloom or khadi clothes. But now they had shifted to mill made cotton and terecotton clothes. According to them this had nothing to do with improvement in their economic position. In course of informal discussion they stated that the handloom and khadi clothes had not so much of durability in comparison to the mill-made and terecotton clothes. Moreover, of late, due to its export demand, the handloom and khadi clothes were becoming costlier day by day. In contrast to handloom and khadi clothes the terecotton and mill-made clothes are quite durable and easily washable. They further said that second hand terecott and terelin readymade garments were easily available even in rural market on a very cheap price. And as such, keeping economic factor in view the beneficiaries went for the second hand terecott and terelin items than using handloom and khadi clothes.

Table-4.4

Q.37(d) Ornaments for Female Folk

N=40 for each district

HARYANA								
Items	Narnaul District				Bhiwani District			
	Before becoming the beneficiary	Responses	Percentage	After becoming the beneficiary	Responses	Percentage	Before becoming the beneficiary	Responses
							After becoming the beneficiary	Percentage
Silver	14	35%		15	37.5%		16	40%
Gold	10	25%		18	45%		25	62.5%
Glass	40	100%		40	100%		40	100%
Metal	4	10%		10	25%		4	10%
KARNATAKA								
Items	Mysore District				Tumkur District			
	Before becoming the beneficiary	Responses	Percentage	After becoming the beneficiary	Responses	Percentage	Before becoming the beneficiary	Responses
							After becoming the beneficiary	Percentage
Silver	2	5%		6	15%		-	-
Gold	2	5%		12	30%		8	20%
Glass	10	25%		22	55%		11	27.5%
Plastic	-	-		-	-		-	-
WEST BENGAL								
Items	Nadia District				Murshidabad District			
	Before becoming the beneficiary	Responses	Percentage	After becoming the beneficiary	Responses	Percentage	Before becoming the beneficiary	Responses
							After becoming the beneficiary	Percentage
Silver	-	-		7	17.5%		5	12.5%
Gold	-	-		-	-		-	-
Glass	4	10%		10	25%		40	100%
Plastic	9	22.5%		21	52.5%		22	55%

Another question in regard to improvement in asset was asked to the beneficiaries as to whether they had purchased valuable ornaments for their wives and female folks after becoming the beneficiaries. Table-4.4 clearly indicates a substantive improvement in the quality of ornaments of the beneficiaries. We were astounded to notice that at the one hand they felt that their economic condition had not ^{been} improved even after becoming the beneficiaries of surplus ceiling land ^{and} on the other, they had purchased the ornaments of gold and silver for their wives. We, therefore, tried to probe as to how could it be possible? In reply to our query on the beneficiaries said that gold and silver were such items whose prices increased every day. As such, out of their small savings or even by living in hardship and to follow the tradition, they went for purchasing small ornament items. They again said that it might help them in some unprecedented calamities in future when these ornaments could be sold on higher prices to meet their

uncalled for expenditures when ever required.

In rural areas particularly the weaker and the poorer section of the society did not wear footwears in the past. But due to the impact of modernization and urbanization even in rural areas both young and old had of late

/ this
point

started wearing footwears. As such, we wanted to enquire from the beneficiaries as to whether they were wearing the footwears only after becoming the beneficiaries of the surplus ceiling land or they used to wear ~~them~~ even before becoming the beneficiaries.

The results on this account are presented in table-4.5.

Table-4.5

Q.37(c) Items of Comfort

N=40 for each district

Items	Narnaul District				HARYANA			
	Before becoming the beneficiary		After becoming the beneficiary		Before becoming the beneficiary		After becoming the beneficiary	
	Res- ponses	Per- centage	Res- ponses	Per- centage	Res- ponses	Per- centage	Res- ponses	Per- centage
Tyre Chappals	20	50%	22	55%	18	45%	18	45%
Rough Shoes	14	35%	20	50%	22	55%	22	55%
Factory made Shoes	6	15%	6	15%	6	15%	10	25%
Wooden Chappals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cloth Shoes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
KARNATAKA								
Mysore District				Tumkur District				
Tyre Chappals	8	20%	15	37.5%	12	30%	19	47.5%
Cloth Shoes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rough Shoes	-	-	1	2.5%	5	12.5%	14	35%
Leather Shoes	-	-	-	-	1	2.5%	2	5%
WEST BENGAL								
Nadia District				Murshidabad District				
Tyre Chappals	30	75%	32	80%	19	47.5%	24	60%
Wooden Chappals	-	-	5	12.5%	-	-	-	-
Cloth Shoes	-	-	4	10%	2	5%	7	17.5%
Rough Shoes	-	-	6	15%	1	2.5%	4	10%
Factory Shoes	-	-	-	-	1	2.5%	-	-

above
If one looks into the table, it would be quite surprising to note that in comparison to other items there was no substantive improvement in the footwear habits of the beneficiaries of all the three states.

There was some improving trend in case of beneficiaries of Haryana and West Bengal. ^{But,} / Karnataka presented a very disappointing picture. It could easily be deduced that the beneficiaries of Karnataka were still below the subsistence line. The increasing trend, though marginal, in case of Haryana and West Bengal might be due to the fact that the selected two districts of Haryana were drought prone districts. As a result even in agricultural fields thorny bushes automatically grew and made it very difficult for the famrers to enter into their agricultural fields bare foot. As such, they were compelled to wear shoes or chappals locally made of the skin of dead animals. In majority of cases they used to wear tyre made chappals. Desert situation also compelled them to wear foot wears. Same could be said about West Bengal. Because both the selected districts i.e., Nadia and Murshidabad were basically either Drought Prone Areas or Forest Areas, where foot wears ^{protecting one's body} were highly required for / from bite of snakes etc.

Lastly we wanted to know about the beneficiaries' household items like cotts, furnitures, bicycles, radio, watches boxes, etc. so as to assess whether there was any improvement on this account.

Table-4.6

Q.37(f) Furniture and Other Household Goods

N=40 for each district

<u>HARYANA</u>								
Items	<u>Narnaul District</u>				<u>Bhiwani District</u>			
	Before becom- ing the beneficiary		After becom- ing the beneficiary		Before becom- ing the beneficiary		After becom- ing the beneficiary	
	Res- ponses	Per- centage	Res- ponses	Per- centage	Res- ponses	Per- centage	Res- ponses	Per- centage
Cott	34	85%	36	90%	32	80%	34	85%
Cycle	-	-	8	20%	-	-	7	17.5%
Radio	-	-	10	25%	5	12.5%	5	12.5%
Watch	-	-	16	40%	-	-	10	25%
Box	-	-	10	25%	-	-	10	25%
Furni- ture	-	-	-	-	4	10%	6	15%
<u>KARNATAKA</u>								
	<u>Mysore District</u>				<u>Tumkur District</u>			
	Before becom- ing the beneficiary		After becom- ing the beneficiary		Before becom- ing the beneficiary		After becom- ing the beneficiary	
	Res- ponses	Per- centage	Res- ponses	Per- centage	Res- ponses	Per- centage	Res- ponses	Per- centage
Cott	-	-	6	15%	-	-	-	-
Deewan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bed	-	-	5	12.5%	-	-	-	-
Mat	6	15%	16	40%	1	2.5%	14	35%
Furni- ture	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>WEST BENGAL</u>								
	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before becom- ing the beneficiary		After becom- ing the beneficiary		Before becom- ing the beneficiary		After becom- ing the beneficiary	
	Res- ponses	Per- centage	Res- ponses	Per- centage	Res- ponses	Per- centage	Res- ponses	Per- centage
Cott	2	5%	8	20%	4	10%	3	7.5%
Deewan	5	12.5%	8	20%	1	2.5%	8	20%
Bed	-	-	6	15%	-	-	4	10%
Mat	5	12.5%	15	37.5%	4	10%	14	35%
Furni- ture	3	7.5%	8	20%	4	10%	5	12.5%

Surprisingly in this case too, the beneficiaries of Haryana and West Bengal scored very high over the beneficiaries of Karnataka. Particularly in case of Haryana the increase was quite encouraging. In comparison to Haryana the beneficiaries of West Bengal lagged far behind. The Karnataka beneficiaries drew dismal picture on this account.

As it has clearly been mentioned earlier that in case of Karnataka hardly 20% of surplus ceiling land had been assigned to the beneficiaries. Eighty percent of the surplus land was either under litigation or was assigned on paper only. In such a situation thinking of improvement in the economic condition of beneficiaries was beyond the imagination. Our field experience also suggested that the beneficiaries of Karnataka were at the receiving end.

After going through all such details and looking into the tables it would appear quite obvious that by and large the beneficiaries of all the three states had improved their economic condition after getting the surplus ceiling land assigned. However, there had been ^{considerable variation in} the degree of ^{obtained} difference in three states under study. On comparative side the beneficiaries of Haryana stood on the top, the West Bengal beneficiaries in the middle and the beneficiaries of Karnataka at the bottom. The reasons for

such difference have been explained in the chapter "Field Notes and Observations". However, they may be summarised as follows:

In Haryana much efforts have been made since the creation of state to bring about improvement in the agricultural sector and as such even the backward districts of Haryana had much better agricultural facilities in comparison with even forward districts of other state of India. The government, apart from the facilities provided in forms of agricultural inputs and infrastructural facilities, was quite liberal in providing loan facilities for the peasants. The Haryanvees were also very enterprising and valued the dignity of labour. They were not satisfied with earning their two square meals only but the always tried hard to earn more and save something for future.

However, the major factor which helped the beneficiaries of surplus ceiling land in Haryana in improving their economic condition was the so called liberal policy of the government in assigning the surplus ceiling land. In Haryana it was observed that surplus ceiling land, in majority of the cases, was assigned to small and marginal farmers. Only in negligible cases land was assigned to landless and

agricultural labourers. Ownership of milch cattles and camels was a common factor for the beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries. In certain cases it was also observed that the beneficiaries of Haryana had T.V. sets in their houses. All these are an indicator of ^{improved} the economic condition of the beneficiaries of surplus ceiling land in Haryana.

The economic condition of the assignees of surplus ceiling land in West Bengal also showed some increasing and improving trend but not so much as that of Haryana. As a matter of fact the government of West Bengal had adopted a very sound and just system of assigning the surplus ceiling land. The ceiling land was assigned only to those who had either no land to their credit or were the agricultural labourers. The only defect which we noticed was that ^avery small chunk of land was provided to the beneficiaries. It is really encouraging to note that the beneficiaries had improved their economic condition by cultivating even ^{such} small chunk of land assigned to them. It might be hypothesised that had two to three acres of land been assigned to the beneficiaries, their economic condition would have improved more.

In case of Karnataka little improvement was noticed in the economic condition of assignees of ceiling land. The reasons for such marginal improvement have already been mentioned. In this State, most of the land was allotted on paper and no physical possession was given to the beneficiaries due to some reason or other. However, the beneficiaries who had been given physical possession of the land had certainly improved their economic condition.

On the whole it could be said that the scheme might to be disguise prove/a boon in / in improving the economic condition of the landless and agricultural labourers provided it was implemented effectively. The secondary data given in the Appendix proved beyond doubts that hardly 35 to 50 per cent surplus land acquired so far by the state governments had been assigned to the beneficiaries. Had total land acquired been physically given to the beneficiaries, they could have improved their economic condition in a substantive manner.

(For details in improvement in economic condition of beneficiaries itemwise, please see the Appendix-I).

Improvement in Social Status of Beneficiaries

Improvement in economic condition and social status are inter dependent and there is causal relationship between the two. In a developing society having low rate of literacy, it is generally seen that the social status of an individual is determined by affluence and economic status of the family. In rural areas of late due to the impact of urbanization and gradual crumbling of citadel of caste, the people who improved their economic condition had also free social mobility and the privilege of better social status.

We thought it proper to enquire from the beneficiaries as to whether with improvement in their economic condition

there was any change or improvement in their social status too?
like

As such, we put a question / this: "In course of improving your economic status have you found any change or improvement in your social status"? The response of the beneficiaries of all the six districts in three states have been presented in Table-4.7. Looking into the table it can be said that 20%, 12%, 17%, 15%, 12% and 17% beneficiaries of Bhiwani, districts Narnaul, Tumkur, Mysore, Nadia and Murshidabad / respectively noticed improvement in their social status to a great extent whereas 30%, 27%, 20%, 30%, 22% and 20% respectively admitted that there was improvement in their social status only to a little extent. As against the figures mentioned above in regard

Table-4.7

Response of beneficiaries in regard to improvement in social status after assigning the land

	Haryana				Karnataka				West Bengal			
	Bhi- wani	%age	Nar- naul	%age	Tum- kur	%age	My- sore	%age	Na- dia	%age	Mur- shi- da- bad	%age
Improve- ment to a great extent	8	20%	5	12.5%	7	17.5%	6	15%	5	12.5%	7	17.5%
Improve- ment to some extent	12	30%	11	27.5%	8	20%	12	30%	9	22.5%	8	20%
Do not know	10	25%	9	22.5%	19	47.5%	12	30%	14	35%	15	37.5%
No im- provement at all	10	25%	15	37.5%	6	15%	10	25%	12	30%	10	25%
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

to improvement in social status 25%, 22%, 47%, 30%, 35% and 37% beneficiaries of Bhiwani, Narnaul, Tumkur, Mysore, Nadia and Murshidabad respectively expressed their ignorance in regard to improvement in social status and explained that they

did not know whether they have improved their social status, while 25%, 37%, 15%, 25%, 30% and 25% respectively categorically said that they didn't find any improvement in their social status and emphatically said that their social status stood there where it was earlier. However, looking into the table it is quite clear that around 50% beneficiaries belonging to six districts of three states found improvement either to a great extent or to some extent in their social status. It is ^{indeed} a good sign. The percentage in improvement of social status as reported by beneficiaries was a bit high in case of Haryana in comparison to West Bengal and Karnataka.

After knowing their reaction in regard to improvement in social status we put a deeper query as to how they noticed improvement in their social status or what were the parameters of judging improvement in social status. In response to this query, the beneficiaries who reported improvement in their social status identified a number of indicators. They said that the first indication of improvement in their social status was that even the members of higher caste families did not find it below their dignity to talk to them freely. In ^{the} past when they were living below the subsistence line, the persons belonging to ^{higher} caste families never liked to talk to them. secondly, in some cases, on ceremonial occasions like marriage and other social ^{functions} some of the members of

higher caste families invited them to their places to provide physical help and to have dinner with them.

Thirdly, the most visible improvement in their social status was that earlier the members of higher caste families did not allow the poor villagers to sit on the cots in their presence but now they didn't object to that.

Fourthly, the noticeable change in their social status is also reflected from the fact that now they can dare to speak against the high handedness and exploiting attitude of dominant section of the society. They further observe that even the government officials now give cognizance to their presence in the rural society and interact with them freely.

While summing up, it could be said that the hypothesis that with the increase in economic status, social status increases automatically stands validated. Our study clearly reveals that almost all the beneficiaries have actually been given physical possession of the land and cultivating it have been able to improve their economic conditions and consequently experienced noticeable change in their social status.

CHAPTER-V

FIELD NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

West Bengal

Nadia District:

During the course of field visit the Research Team enquired about Land Reforms measures taken in West Bengal from knowledgeable persons of the area. Apart from this the team also observed the behaviour and attitude of beneficiaries as also the officials and prepared some field note.

First of all we wanted to know how the land records were maintained in West Bengal and how the surplus land was detected? In this connection the officials of Krishna Nagar informed that in West Bengal every individual and every government official dealing with land had Khatian (Record Book of Land). The circle officer after looking into the Khatian used to inform the higher authorities that in such and such village such and such persons had the surplus land. On the basis of this information details of the family concerned were obtained as to how many adults and children were there in the family. After that it was being determined, as per the Ceiling Act, as to what amount of land could be possessed by the particular family. That particular amount of land is deducted from the total land and remaining land was declared as surplus land and the government used to take possession of that

surplus land. However, as per the ceiling Act the Landlord was given the choice as to which land he would like to retain and which one he would surrender. As per official information people generally surrendered 'C' or 'D' grade land. In no case they surrendered grade 'A' land. After this formality, the government officials used to go to the site of the land, measured it and digged a wooden pillor through-out the boundary of the land declaring it as government land.

The government officials further informed that they did not acquire the land on the basis of the area shown in the map. They used to go to the site for physical varification, measured the land, entered it in their register and then declared it as the government land. If any individual landlord encroached upon the government land, the information to this effect was sent to the panchayat by the concerned field staff and the panchayat on the basis of that information started legal proceedings against the landlord who had encroached the land.

The West Bengal Land Ceiling Act provided that the surplus land assigned to a particular beneficiary could not be sold by him, nor he could let it out on share cropping basis. The provision was also there that if a beneficiary did not cultivate the assigned land

for a longer period, his Patta might be cancelled by the government and the land might be assigned to some other beneficiary who was actually interested in cultivating the land.

If there was a conflict between two political parties in regard to a particular land being given to the beneficiary of a particular party and there was danger of breach of peace, the government officials were expected to take help of the police and supposed to assign the land to the genuine beneficiary.

Similarly, if at the time of harvesting a particular party was determined to harvest the crops of other party, the police after being reported^{would}/ provide protection. It was the duty of the government officials to ensure that the actual assignee of the land cultivated it and harvested the ripe standing crop.

The circle officer of the local Krishna Nagar Block reported that more than 500 acres of land were under litigation and pending with the court of law. This related to forcefull occupation of land by the Ex-landlords. According to this official such landlords surrendered the land on paper only and in actual practice they still cultivated the land with the help of their men and muscle power. They used to show their political strength

and even in the court of law they had their say and managed to keep pending such cases for years together.

The A.P.O. Monitoring (DRDA) informed that there was a Standing Committee at the block level to identify the beneficiaries of the surplus land. But the composition of that standing committee had no scientific base. The dominance of party cadre was apparently visible on the committee. Instead of having detailed and frank discussion about the eligibility of beneficiaries, the party workers had often come to the meeting of the committee with a list of their men in the pocket and forced the members of the standing committee to incorporate those names in the list of selected beneficiaries for allotment of land and accordingly the government officials issued the patta in the name of such beneficiaries.

The Additional District Magistrate, Land Reforms, reported that a very small piece of land was assigned to most of the beneficiaries. While further elaborating his point the concerned official informed the Research Team that officials of Land Reform Department desired that a minimum 1 acre land should be given to a beneficiary but the workers of political parties put pressure on officials to allot small pieces of land to the maximum number of beneficiaries.

The A.D.M. in course of informal discussion pointed out that of/course under the existing Land Reform Act the beneficiaries could not sell the assigned land. However, very few cases had been reported in which the beneficiaries had sold their assigned land. But the government officials were very much alert on this point and whenever any such case ^{was brought to their} / notice they immediately took suitable actions. He further said that locating such defaulters was very easy. Elaborating his view points he said that in West Bengal even general villagers were very much conscious. The moment they heard about such cases, it was immediately reported to the Junior Land Reform Officer and preventive measures were taken immediately.

Similarly, we wanted to know from him whether the beneficiaries of ceiling land used their land for share-cropping by other villagers. The A.D.M. said that of/course such possibility could not be ruled out and a few such cases came to the notice of the officials of Land Reform Department. But in such cases government officials acted promptly and cancelled the Patta of the particular beneficiary.

In regard to mutations, we wanted to know whether mutations ^{were} / the part of ^{the programme of} / assigning the ceiling land. In reply, the A.D.M. told to the Research Team

that it was not done immediately. However, it was done on the request made by the beneficiary.

Recently the central government has issued a circular to all the State Governments that at the time of mutation the name of both husband and wife should be entered in the register. As such, we wanted to know from the A.D.M. as to whether the practice was followed in his State/District. The A.D.M. reported that such circular had not been received by them and naturally only the name of the assignee was entered in the register at the time of mutation.

While on tour of Belgoria Gram Panchayat, we tried to seek some information from the Pradhan. He informed that in West Bengal Panchayat elections were contested on party lines. The activists of different political parties were very much active in rural areas in educating the rural masses. As such big landlords could not hide their land and the surplus land was immediately surrendered by them to the government.

In regard to distribution of land amongst the landless, the Pradhan reported that as per the provisions, minimum 1 acre of land was to be assigned. But in Krishna Nagar District the land was limited^{and} as such the workers of political parties tried to get the land distributed to the maximum number of beneficiaries. As

a result very small piece of land was given to the assignees of ceiling land.

He further informed that there was some low land in the area, which was declared by the government as non-cultivable. But that land, too, with the efforts of Gram Panchayat was distributed among the landless and they used to grow at least one crop in the year. The ratio of distribution of such land has been decided by the Gram Panchayats unofficially and neither the Patta was distributed to the beneficiaries nor their names had been entered in the official record of the government.

We wanted to varify the official version that party workers put unnecessary pressure on government officials to assign the land in the name of particular beneficiary. As such we put this question to the Pradhan. The Pradhan contradicted the official version and told that the identification process of the beneficiaries was so scientific that the party workers could not press the officials to do something illegal. He explained that the beneficiaries were identified in a well organised meeting attended by the villagers, members of Gram Panchayat, Government officials, party workers as also the beneficiaries. The poverty priority was fixed as per the government guidelines. But at the time of

distributing the Patta ^{lottery} / system was not adopted and the Gram Panchayats distributed the land according to its choice among the beneficiaries. However, during the course of interview with the beneficiaries, the way workers of political parties behaved, the Research Team drew the conclusion that the official version was correct and the workers of political parties often put pressures on the government officials to do favour to particular beneficiaries.

Again few cases of land grabbing by powerful section was reported by government officials. But the Pradhan told that the system was such that at the time of acquiring the land it was measured and pillars digged. As such the question of land grabbing did not arise.

About the pieces of land allotted to beneficiaries, the Pradhan reported that before 1976 when there was congress government in the State 3 to 5 acres of land used to ^{have been} / distributed among the beneficiaries. But when Left Front government came to power it adopted the policy ^{of giving to the} / benefit ^{to the} maximum number of poor people and started distributing small pieces of land.

In regard to interlinking Land Reforms with Integrated Rural Development Programmes, the Pradhan reported that whatever facilities in the name of

agricultural inputs were available, the Gram Panchayat saw to it that the benefits should go to the assignees of ceiling land. In other words it could be said that according to the Pradhan the Gram Panchayats were very much alive to their responsibilities in regard to Land Reform measures.

In Haripur Gram Panchayat, which is a congress ruled Panchayat, some beneficiaries of ceiling land were deprived of the possession and cultivation of allotted land. After so depriving them the same land was reallocated to some other beneficiary. In such cases although Gram Panchayat sent the names of actual cultivators who cultivated the assigned land to the standing committee at the Block for correction, the committee under the control of the CPM allotted that land to some other beneficiaries who belonged to that party. Since the CPM hold control on the Block standing committee, the poor Pradhan of congress party could not do anything except voicing his protest.

During the course of informal discussion with the government officials, Pradhan and the Sabhapati, the Research Team got an impression that full-proof method was adopted in land distribution among the beneficiaries. But when the Research Team reached to the village Borojiyakur and started interviewing the beneficiaries

some striking facts came to its notice which are as follows:

In most of the cases Pattas were issued only for residential plots and in few cases 5 to 6 katha cultivable land was allotted to some beneficiaries. As such a real gap existed between what was told to the Research Team and what was actually happening in the field. It may or may not be correct but one thing was clear that at the time of interview the beneficiaries were surrounded by the CPM workers and were compelled to say what party workers dictated them. Some times we followed what the party workers were dictating to the beneficiaries as one member amongst us was knowing Bengali and later on he explained to us as to what workers of the party wanted from the beneficiaries.

In regard to agricultural inputs, the beneficiaries reported that in rare cases agricultural inputs were provided to the beneficiaries. Whatever facilities at limited scale were available, the procedure was such that a beneficiary had to wait for two years for his turn to come. Following procedure was adopted for providing agricultural inputs. If ten beneficiaries were provided agricultural inputs this year, another ten beneficiaries were given next year and yet another ten beneficiaries the following year.

The beneficiaries reported that cultivation cost of one acre came around Rs.1000/- per crop. But the tragedy was that neither they could procure Rs.1000/- at their own nor banks were ready to provide them loan. The government also did not give any financial assistance in the form of subsidy etc. As such it could be said that despite the allotment of land the beneficiaries were helpless in properly cultivating the land ^{for} lack of financial assistance. Some how or other they ploughed the land, put the seeds and left it to the mercy of God as they had no means to provide fertiliser and pesticides and irrigation.

In course of interview one of the out spoken beneficiaries brought striking fact to the notice of Research Team. He informed that Shaire Hind (Garmajurua land) was distributed among beneficiaries in his village and the land which was declared surplus by the landlords was still to be distributed as the landlords had not physically surrendered that land and the government was not doing anything towards acquiring that land.

A revealing case also came to our notice. Mr. Abhimanyu Mazumdar who migrated from East Pakistan in 1956, out of his own earning as a daily wage earner, purchased some five acres of Forest Land from a particular landlord. Thereafter, he put hard labour for converting the

cultivable field.
forest into / . But later on he came to know that the land which he had purchased was likely to be acquired by the government as that particular land was surrendered by the landlords. Since he had spent money and had made the land cultivable, he got panicky. Seeing his mental condition, some of the villagers suggested him to see the government officials and seek their help. The fellow did accordingly. But government officials instead of taking any action against the said landlord, who declared the saled land as surplus land, out of pity issued a patta of 5 acres in the name of Mr. Maz.umdar as the assignee of ceiling land and the land was restored to him but no action was taken against the corrupt landlord.

Some other cases of almost similar nature were also reported. One of them was the case of Mr. Brindavan Sircar. He, after migrating from East Bengal in 1956, came to the village and settled in forest area. He acquired some Shaire Hind forest land and after removing the Jangals started cultivating the land and at the time of issuing the patta he got land assigned in his name and became the formal owner of the land. Most of the cases of this particular village were of the nature of the case of Mr. Sircar. This suggests that inspite of best laws framed by the West Bengal Government in regard to Land Reforms the lacuna still existed.

From this village we moved to Halgaeha village of Kali Ganj Revenue Circle. After reaching the village and before formal interview could start, we had some informal meeting with the general villagers. In course of informal discussion the villagers informed that there were some villagers who were employed in some distant towns and cities but at the time of distributing the patta they came to the village and got land assigned in their names as they were landless. But they did not cultivate the land and had rented it out on share cropping basis. At the time of harvest they used to come to the village and got their share collected from the share croppers and fetched it to their serving place. They were of the opinion that such pattas should be cancelled and the land should be reallocated to some genuine and landless beneficiary. However, except for few such cases the villagers by and large ^{been} admitted that their economic condition had actually improved after allotment of ceiling land. They were now in a position to earn two square meals.

The beneficiaries informed that they got the patta only in 1972 when Mr. Sidhartha Shanker Ray was the Chief Minister of the State. They further informed that even today some surplus land was available in the village for distribution and genuine beneficiaries were also available

but unfortunately the present government has not yet taken any step towards distribution of that surplus land.

While comparing their lot with other beneficiaries of nearby Panchayats, the respondents informed that their panchayat being a congress ruled, did not get proper attention of the political as well as bureaucratic organisations. As a result inspite of surplus land available for distribution, the beneficiaries suffered. They further pointed out that in nearby CPM ruled Panchayat the beneficiaries apart from getting ceiling land were provided with agricultural inputs whereas they neither got land nor agricultural inputs.

They narrated one story as to how they were misled by the former M.L.A. to do something illegal. The story goes like this: The out going M.L.A.(belong to RSP, United front) provoked the poor villagers to loot the foodgrains from the harvest field of a landlord and on his assurance that nothing would happen, the poor villagers did accordingly. The landlord filed an FIR with the police and named certain villagers. The villagers, named in FIR, were arrested and a court case was going against them. But the M.L.A. instead of coming to their help sided with the landlord and they were suffering due to their being innocent and provoked behaviour.

Now they have a congress MLA and they had all praise for the present MLA. They informed that the present MLA tried his best to get land assigned in the name of landless labourers and to provide agricultural input facilities but failed as the government officials were not ready to listen to him. Yet another peculiar case came to our notice / in which the original patta holder was evacuated from the land. The patta holder reported the matter to the Junior Land Reform Officer. After inquiry into the matter the JLRO found the version of the patta holder correct and reported the matter to the higher authorities. But so far nothing had been done in this regard.

Since this was a congress ruled Gram Panchayat, the Research Team was compelled to conclude that either the statements made by the villagers were concocted one or they were the hard realities.

The JLRO of Kaliganj confessed that it was often difficult for them to deal with the problems arising out of political rivalries, particularly, at the standing committee meetings, where various pressure groups insist before the JLRO (Secretary of the Standing Committee) to act in violation of government rules in order to get favour for their supporters. Since such persons had direct contact with political leadership at the higher levels and general public too, they were in a position to harm

the government official. As a result on most of the occasions the government officials succumbed to their pressure. If the Junior officials did not succumbed to the pressure of these interested parties, complaints were made against the officials by them to the District Magistrate or Assistant District Magistrate Land Reforms. In such a situation the Junior Land Reform Officers were considered by their bosses as tactless and inefficient.

Murshidabad District

The same story of Nadia District was repeated by the SLRO (Senior Land Reform Officer) of Raghunath Ganj that before 1977 minimum 1 acre land used to be assigned to one beneficiary but after 1977 land was assigned to the beneficiaries in Kathas just to benefit maximum number of people. He further informed that the land was allotted to the beneficiaries as per the guidelines of government of India and accordingly the list of beneficiaries was prepared in advance. However, he said that in certain cases list of beneficiaries was manipulated by the Panchayat Pradhans just to help their supporters. He again told that such things happened in rare cases and explained the selection criteria of beneficiaries which runs as follows:

The list of beneficiaries of ceiling land was displayed in the Panchayat Bhawan and 15 days time usually given to file objections. Such objections were examined and if found correct, the corrective measures were taken immediately and a fresh and corrected list was displayed in the Panchayat Bhawan within a month's time and on that very basis patta was issued to the beneficiaries. But even after this process, any irregularity came to the notice of the government officials, again corrective measures started by way of cancelling the patta of such beneficiaries and realloiting the land in the name of genuine beneficiaries.

He further informed that in some cases pressures came either from some Ministers or some influential MLAs to give favour to a particular beneficiary. This was such a situation that lower level government officials found themselves in a very very difficult position because either way sword of democles was hanging over their head i.e. either to earn the displeasure of the Minister/MLA or to face public ^{reprimand} / for wrongfull deed.

In certain cases it was reported that the land was assigned in the name of a particular beneficiary and the fellow started cultivating that land. But after few years another beneficiary forcefully occupied that land

compelling the original beneficiary to live pauper's life. But such cases had come to the notice of land reform officials and the cases had been instituted in SDO's court for restoration of the land to the original beneficiary.

Cases of harvest violence were also reported to the Research Team. This act was committed by such persons who fell below the poverty line. However, the officials informed that the government machinery, on the information of the concerned party, took all precautionary measures to check the harvest violence. He informed that police party used to be posted where ever there was apprehension of harvest violence. In certain cases proceedings under section 144 and 107 convertable under section 145 and 117 were also started.

A very interesting case was reported by the Karmadhayaksya of Berhampur Panchayat Samiti and the case related to Ruia village. The case ^{was} like this: in this Panchayat pattas were distributed to the beneficiaries recently i.e. in October, 1986. However, the allotted lands were under the defecto ownership of these beneficiaries for the last 6 to 7 years. But the fact remains that most of these beneficiaries got the possession of

respective lands by forcibly evicting the actual holders of the land at that time. They got it done with the help of political parties. These land holders were now in sound economic position as the land was irrigated and quite comfortably they got two crops grown on that land.

In this particular area the economic condition of beneficiaries had definitely ^{been} improved to some extent not only due to the allotment of land to them but also because of other extension and development programmes viz. irrigation facilities, new variety of improved seeds and introduction of programmes like TRYSEM, NREP, RLEGP, etc.

The village was basically Muslim dominated. We saw male members wearing chappals and shoes but female were bare footed. As such out of curiosity we wanted to know, whether the female got inferior treatment in the family or they could not afford to purchase chappals. In reply to our query it was informed that due to some traditional custom Muslim women of that particular area remained bare footed.

After covering the beneficiaries of above mentioned village of Berhampur, we moved to the village Nishadbag of Lal Bag Subdivision. In this village we first met the

Pradhan, who belonged to the congress party and was one of the most active and committed workers of the party. Though he gave us the desired information yet he was found more keen in giving a comparative picture of the performance of congress government and CPM ruled Left Front Government of the present. At the initial stage we thought that he might be giving an exaggerated picture but after a cross varification from different sections of the village community his statement was found to be correct.

He stated that the composition of standing committee was broad based. Apart from government officials, peoples' representatives were also on the committee. However, he added that the Sabhapati of the Block was the key man and he was in a position to manipulate the list of beneficiaries according to his liking and could favour his followers and supporters in allotting the surplus land.

He informed that before 1977 whatever surplus land was vested with the government, the congress government headed by Sidhartha Shankar Ray distributed the land among the beneficiaries. The CPM government has allotted only that land which was under litigation before 1977 and cleared after wards. There was still some surplus lands lying with the big landlords but the present government had not taken any sincere and serious step to acquire them.

In regard to the policy of allotment of land to the beneficiaries he had to say that while distributing the land the Congress Government had a broad based policy and without any party consideration the government benefitted the poor and needy sections of the rural society. But the present government believed in patronising and rested on spoil system. While distributing the land they tried their best to assign the land to those beneficiaries who were either the card holders of the left parties or the supporters and followers of the left parties. Apart from this he had to suggest something about allround development of rural areas. He said that the agriculturists of this area were trying hard to increase agricultural output but they did not get the genuine prices of their products as there was no mandi in the area and naturally the producers had to sell their foodgrains on throw away prices in the hands of merchants who came to their village for purchase. As such he suggested that in every locality there should be a mandi where agricultural inputs were made available and the agricultural produce could be sold.

Again coming to the point of Land Reforms, he informed that there were some patta holders who were not interested in cultivating the land and in course of time they sold the land to others and the deal was so secret that neither

the government officials nor the leaders of public opinion could know about that. The Pradhan further reported that in certain cases under economic pressure and natural calamities the assignees of the land took loan from money lenders of the village and mortgaged the land to the money lenders unofficially for a particular period of time. Since the loanees mortgaged their land they had not to pay any interest and whenever they were in a position to return the money, returned it and got the land back. But those who were not in a position to return the money within fixed period they finally settled the land in the name of money lenders.

Quite interestingly he pointed out that for the last ten years in more than 10 percent cases the patta was in the name of some body else and land was occupied and cultivated by some one else and that too forcefully. Whenever such cases came to light the matter was reported to the officials and legal proceeding started against the persons who forcefully occupied the land. But legal cases took too much time and the agrieved party got impatient. In the meanwhile the party which forcefully occupied the land started giving all sorts of threat to the real patta holder.

Coming to the point of exploitation of poor villagers, the Pradhan told that exploitation existed in past and

exists even today but the form has since been changed. Previously, the landlords and affluent section of the society used to exploit the poor villagers. But after the abolition of Zamindari System, they were not in a position of exploiting the poor masses to a great extent. However, in recent years a neo dominant section with the help of party in power had emerged on the village scene and this neo exploiting force exploited the poor villagers in more heartless manner than the past.

Elaborating his point the Pradhan further reported that since the new government came to power, the informal and traditional community Panchayats had withered away. He narrated the usefulness of the traditional panchayats and said that in past, minor village disputes could be settled by the traditional panchayats without any financial involvement and that too without any delay and to the utmost satisfaction of both the parties. But now the workers of Left Front misguided and compelled the common villagers to bring even minor cases to the court of law. This trend had made common villagers economically hard-pressed as court cases required money and some times they had to please police officials by bribing them suitably.

Again, coming to the point of beneficiaries of ceiling land the Pradhan told that 90 percent of the

beneficiaries of his village were Refugees from Bangladesh. In regard to mutation cases, he told that after the patta was issued, the inspector from JLRO office used to come to the village, made the varification of the plot on the spot and after that name of the particular beneficiary was ^{inserted} / into the government Khatian.

Since the Pradhan was an activist of the congress party, more often than not, tried to give a comparative analysis of his own in regard to the functioning and performance of the Congress government in past and the Left Front government in present. In this regard he gave some general information which are as follows:-

In that panchayat area, before independence there were two primary schools. But after independence and till 1977 the number of schools rose to 12 including one high school. But, in spite of requirement of more schools no addition was made during 1977-1987.

Similarly, elaborating his view point in regard to irrigational facilities the Pradhan told that before 1967 there was no irrigational facility in the area worth the name. But between 1971 and 1977 irrigational facilities improved a lot due to government efforts. During this period 7 RLI deep tubewells and two other

irrigational projects were completed. But after 1977 no addition to these facilities had been made.

In regard to health facilities, he reported that in 1972 the government started one health centre in the village. But during the last 10 years the building of that health centre has come to the surface and no health employee was posted to this health centre.

Similarly in 1975, 6 km. Break Road was constructed under the crash programme. But in absence of proper maintenance now that road was in a very very bad shape. As such being a traditional activist he tried to narrate the pit falls of the present government. Though these statements were irrelevant in the present context still if there was 25 percent truth in his statement, it was really a serious matter and the government should take notice of it.

In the spirit of Gandhian philosophy of maximum good to the maximum number, allotment of small pieces of land to the beneficiaries may be justified. But while considering it from practical point of view it was not good in the sense that cultivation on a very small piece of land was quite difficult and costly too. As such instead of going for maximum number the government should allot minimum 1 acre of land to one beneficiary.

Karnataka

The Research Team reached first to State headquarters and had discussion with the State secretariat officials to get some general information about the state in general and two selected districts of Mysore and Tumkur in particular. At the instance of Secretary/Commissioner, Land Reforms, the Research Team met Mr. Surumalliah, Under Secretary, Rural Development Special Economic Programme, for general information.

While initiating the discussion the Under Secretary informed that the whole of the Karnataka State was divided into 4 Divisions headed by a Divisional Commissioner. Every Division had 5 to 6 Districts and there was a Deputy Commissioner for each District. The four Divisions are - (1) Bangalore, (2) Mysore, (3) Belgaon, and (4) Gulbarga.

In regard to Land Reform Schemes, he informed that there were two Schemes operating in the State for providing land to the beneficiaries. The 1st Scheme related to assigning the land to ex-tenants who were cultivating that land since long and the second scheme related to assigning the land to the poor beneficiaries, i.e., the land acquired under the ceiling Act.

He further informed that in case of surplus land assigned to beneficiaries, they were given financial

assistance for the improvement of the land. However, financial assistance depended on availability of the funds. The criteria to be followed for providing financial assistance was the economic condition of the beneficiary i.e. poorest of the poor.

In Karnataka now the Mandal Panchayat was the basic unit of Planning. When the Research Team reached Mysore for field survey it first met the Deputy Commissioner Mr. V.P. Baligar, who, based on his memory gave following information:-

- i) Cases of forceful dispossession of land was not noticed so far;
- ii) Choice of surrendering surplus land was left to the discretion of the landlords and naturally they surrendered third grade land;
- iii) The circular of Central Government that the land should be assigned in the joint name of both husband and wife was not received and as such the name of the beneficiary to whom the land was assigned entered in the government records; and
- iv) In all the cases of assigning the land mutation was complete.

While having a discussion with Mr. S. Basappa, the B.D.O. of Mysore taluk following information were collected:-

Total number of beneficiaries, who were assigned surplus land was 16, of which 10 got the financial assistance of Rs. 1000/-. The break-up of financial assistance is like this:-

1)	Levelling of Plot	Rs. 138.00
2)	Barin	Rs. 24.00
3)	Iron Rod	Rs. 70.00
4)	Mumpty(implement for digging earth)	Rs. 25.00
5)	Fertilisers 2 bags	Rs. 266.00
6)	Different implements for harvest	Rs. 169.00
7)	Labour charges for improving the land	Rs. 200.00
8)	Other implements	Rs. 108.00
		<hr/>
		Total Rs.1000.00
		<hr/>

These implements were purchased from Taluka Agricultural Products and Marketing Cooperative Society. The beneficiaries were given the implements only from these cooperatives. Cash payment was not allowed in any case except Rs.200/- which was paid as labour charge towards improvement of the land.

In the State of Karnataka the Panchayats have not yet been involved in Land Reform Programmes. Convening the meetings of Gram Sabha was being done by the Chairman

Land Tribunal and the Tribunal Committee consisted of 4 non-official members including the local MLA apart from the Chairman who happened to be a government employee.

The Tahsildar of Narjunudu Taluka(Mysore) Mr. Rudrappa K.A.S. informed that the land acquired under Ceiling Act was very limited and that too was of third grade. He further told that whatever limited land was available, the B.A.Os had to play a very crucial role in helping the assignees of ceiling land. So far linking of Land Reforms with integrated rural development programmes was concerned, the B.A.Os would also have to take very keen interest.

The official further informed that in southern Karnataka the land was very limited and only a few landlords came under the Ceiling Act. Originally the Brahmins of these areas were the land owners and as per tradition instead of cultivating the lands by themselves, they used to give them on share cropping basis to other sections of the society. But due to the introduction of ceiling and share cropping acts, they of late had started cultivating the land. He again opined that the Land Reform Acts had created a situation under which tensions between the intermediary castes and the lower castes were growing. According to him the Land Reforms programmes in Karnataka

initiated
were not quite late and that too during the Chief
Ministership of Late Sri Deo Raj Urs.

After visiting Achipura village of Narjangudu Taluk
of Mysore District, the Research Team came to the
conclusion that the officials of this particular Taluk
were not taking the implementation of land reforms
seriously and effectively. The officials did not know
even the route or approach road to the village. The
Research Team was asked to seat in a jeep followed by
another jeep of officials and after inquiring from the
passersby reached near a ditch which was surrounded by
forest and rainy season nalas. After seeing two jeeps
standing near the ditch some children and some villagers
assembled there and after inquiring about the village,
they informed that after crossing the nala on foot we
had to walk for twenty minutes to reach the village.
Any way, after walking for twenty minutes the Research
Team alongwith officials who were as ignorant as Research
Team about the village, reached the place.

After reaching the village the Research Team got
the impression that every thing in the Taluk was in mess.
In the case of this particular village, the Research Team
further observed that the officials had not maintained

any register of the assignees. They had some loose sheets of papers in their hand which indicated the name, father's name of the beneficiaries and amount of land allotted. What was ^{still more} ^{was} surprising that in the sheet of papers no date of assigning the land was mentioned. As such the very genuineness of the paper was doubted by the Research Team.

Another surprising phenomenon noticed was that instead of entering the names of both husband and wife in the register separate land was allotted in the independent name of both husband and the wife as if both were independent and having independent family. Apart from all these things, no patta had been distributed to the assignees except that the names of the assignees appeared in the loose sheet of papers in the hands of officials. Since formal patta was not distributed the question of mutation did not arise.

One educated villager who was a lawyer by profession, Mr. H. V. Shevajanappa informed the Research Team that the surplus land, instead of distributing among the landless families of the village ^{were} being distributed among the recently settled Tamilians of the village. This has caused immense dissatisfaction among the original inhabitants of the village.

As reported by the villagers, political interference, was also one of the reasons ^{for} / tardy implementation of Land Reform measures.

The Tahsildar of the Taluk who had recently joined informed the Research Team that during his short stay at this place he had noticed that there was no improvement in the economic condition of assignees of ceiling land. Assigning the reasons he further explained that no formal possession of land had been given to the assignees so far. He further said that in his taluk there was very very little land to distribute among the landless.

Explaining as to why formal possession had not been given to the beneficiaries he told that the landlords identified as having surplus land, surrendered the land on paper only. Even till the date of field study the land had not come under the possession of the government. Strikingly, he pointed out that the ex-landlords, having surplus lands, in / ^{connivance} with government officials were cultivating the land. As a result, the surplus lands surrendered on paper were ^{not} / assigned to the beneficiaries.

It was noticed that as per government orders the beneficiaries of surplus land used to deposit Rs.1044/- for 2.9 acres of land before the patta was finally

registered in their name and mutation took place. It is striking to note that when the poor villagers were just working hard to earn two square meals for their family how could they manage to deposit such an amount. It may be suggested that for assigning surplus land to the poorest of the poor no fees should be charged by the government.

After conducting the field study of Mysore district the research team reached the headquarters of the Tumkur district for collecting primary data. After reaching the district Headquarters the Research Team had to wait for three hours to meet the Deputy Commissioner as he was out of the station. Any way the D.C. met the Research Team around 1.00 p.m. and having a brief discussion advised the Team to move to Sira Tahsil for field study. But the Research Team had to wait till 3.30 p.m. to move to Sira as no government vehicle was available. However, around 4.00 p.m. a jeep was made available and along with the Tahsildar of Sira Taluk, Mr. Subrayakamath, the Research Team started for its destination. A word of appreciation and praise must be made of the Tahsildar who was quite sincere and had a proper academic and dispassionate approach. He tried his best to provide the real facts to the research team.

In contrast to his approach the attitude of the D.C. was totally non-cooperative. The D.C. did not even care for the stay of the Research Team. With the help of the Tahsildar the Research Team put up in a village Hotel situated on the National-Highway. On the basis of the impression the Research Team gathered of the behaviour of D.C. it could be said that even if the government had the sincere desire for allround development of rural areas, and allotted sufficient funds, no development could take place unless the district level bureaucracy changed its attitude, behaviour and style of functioning.

It was further noticed that ever since the introduction of new Zila Parishad Act and posting of Chief Secretary to Zila Parishad, an official slightly higher the rank of the D.C., the entire focus of attention had been shifted towards the Zila Parishad. The Chief Secretary of the Zila Parishad had become the King-pin of all development activities in the district.

In regard to the progress in land reforms and distribution of ceiling lands to the beneficiaries, the trend seemed to be the same in the whole of Karnataka. The assigning of land to the beneficiaries had not been linked up with Integrated Rural Development Programmes. As a matter of fact in Karnataka as per administrative

set-up the Tahsildar was not supposed to follow up the beneficiaries. His only duty was to issue the patta in the name of beneficiaries, give physical possession of the land and get the mutation done. For inter-linking it with Integrated Rural Development programmes and other developmental activities, B.D.O. was made responsible, and he used to discharge his functions in consultation with the Zila Parishad.

However, the official concerned had to give his impression of linking land reform with Integrated Rural Development Programmes. He informed that under the programme Rs.1000/- was provided to some beneficiaries from the IRDP fund. The provision being that Rs.800/- used to be released to the agricultural cooperative societies of the villages concerned to supply agricultural inputs and infrastructural facilities to concerned beneficiary and Rs.200/- being given in cash to the beneficiary to develop the land and to make it cultivable. But in overwhelming majority of cases beneficiaries reported that no such facility was provided to them. In course of informal discussion three beneficiaries reported that either they got a cow or a bullock cart but they did not know under what scheme it was provided to them.

The Karnataka Land Revenue Act provides that the land owner of a particular plot can not be forbidden of

entering into his agricultural field crossing over the agricultural field of others. But it was only in statute book, not in practice. In certain cases, the beneficiaries of ceiling lands reported that they were given physical possession of their lands by the government and they were now very much keen on cultivating them. But unfortunately the dominant villagers did not allow them to go to their agricultural fields for cultivation by entering through the agricultural lands of dominant villagers. They reported that such cases were also brought to the notice of government officials but so far nothing had been done in this regard and their agricultural fields were left barren.

It was indeed a very alarming development and an eye-opener to the kind of intimidation that the poor villagers had to undergo in a democratic society. In this regard the local administration was required to come to the rescue of such beneficiaries and to ensure that they were not intimidated. However, it could not be done by the Revenue Bureaucracy. It was the duty of the Revenue Bureaucracy to enquire into such cases of intimidation and provide all sorts of security to the beneficiaries of ceiling land so that they could cultivate their land and improved their economic condition. Revenue Bureaucracy was also required to bring such cases in the notice of law and order machinery to take appropriate action.

The Central Government has introduced a new scheme called Dry Land Development Programme on 100 per cent central grant. It was expected that the surplus dry forest land might be allotted to the landless and afforestation facilities might be provided to them. It might serve the double purpose of ^{facilitating} social forestry programme as also helping the assignees in earning for their livelihood from the grown forest on that land. The Tahsildar reported that programme was not in operation in his district. However, as he knew, it was in operation in Mysore district. But unfortunately the officials of Mysore district did not bring this programme in the notice of the Research Team. Two conclusions may be drawn that either the officials did not know about the programme or they might not have brought it to the notice of research team due to their non-performance on this account.

In regard to helping the beneficiaries, the Tahsildar reported that the land reform programme was not linked up with the IRDP. But, he informed that the beneficiaries were benefitted under the centrally sponsored programme towards development of the beneficiaries of ceiling land.

In regard to administrative set up of Revenue Administration, the Tahsildar reported that there was a proposal to restructure the Revenue Administration at the

Taluk level. Under the proposed scheme the Taluk was to be divided into five circles, each circle having a Circle Officer/Deputy Tahsildar/Siristadar. The Tahsildar at the taluk level, in the due course of time, would be a class one officer of Karnataka State Service and would be administering the Revenue Department at the taluk level with the help of five Circle Officers/Deputy Tahsildar/Siristadar. He was of the opinion that it would really prove to be a genuine decentralised Revenue Administration.

In regard to poor performance on land reforms account, the D.C. of Tumkur district, Mr. Sanjay Kaul, reported that the old Mysore princely State under which these districts fall had a very little amount of surplus land. As such, a very limited amount of surplus land was acquired under the Ceiling Act. Even if this version is accepted as correct one probing problem left to be answered that the final process of assigning the ceiling land was not completed in more than fifty percent cases. Whatever surplus land was available, at least this much was expected that the final process should have been completed. The cause of slow and tardy process of implementation still bothered the mind of the Research Team. Whatever little could be guessed, it was that the surplus land was acquired on the paper only and it was still

being cultivated by the ex-landlords. As such, the question of improving the economic condition of the beneficiaries did not arise.

In certain cases negligence on the part of government officials was clearly noticed. For instance, Mr. Nargimhappa S/O Chikkappa and Mr. K. Narsimhaiah S/O Dodda Hanumanthappa of village Chirathahalli, had been allotted 1.8 acres of land vide survey No. 186 but they were not given physical possession. The revenue records showed that they were the guarantors of the land. These two beneficiaries further reported that the original owners of said surplus land were still cultivating the land. However, they were willing to hand it over to the beneficiaries. But due to inactiveness on the part of government officials they had not been in a position to get the formal possession of the land.

The Tahsildar, who had recently joined the Tahsil, informed the Research Team that these cases came to his notice only at the time of interviewing the beneficiaries. However, he assured the Research Team that the said two beneficiaries ^{would} be given actual possession of the land within a month or so. The Research Team interviewed the beneficiaries on August 25, 1987. We are happy to note that the Tahsildar enabled the two beneficiaries to get

physical possession of the land within a month as per his assurance and informed the project Director accordingly vide his letter dated 17 September, 1987. This leads us to conclude that if government officials were determined to implement any scheme effectively, they could do it without much hindrances.

The Tahsildar further reported that total 97 cases of assigning the ceiling land in Sira Taluk were on paper. However, out of 97, 52 cases were under litigation and were pending either with the High Court or with District Appellate Authority for final disposal. Remaining 45 cases were found clear till the date of interview and physical possession of the ceiling land had already been given to the beneficiaries. That also included the two cases referred to above.

Haryana

Bhiwani District:


The Research Team visited the State of Haryana between September 14 and October 8, 1987. In the first leg of tour the Team first reached to the Bhiwani district. But immediately after reaching to the Bhiwani District, the Research Team had a very sad experience. The D.C. was out of station for some training programme and the

A.D.C., a comparatively very young IAS officer, was in charge. He did not show any interest in the research study. Even a vehicle for field tour was procured after great difficulty. It was the impression of the research team that the A.D.C. either felt it below his dignity to spare some of his time for discussion with research team or he did not know any thing in regard to land reform measures. Everything seemed to be in mess as the official concerned did not know anything about the land reforms. After approaching, he directed the Research Team to contact the city Magistrate, who too was in no way better than the A.D.C. However, the Research Team in company with the Patwari moved to the villages for field study and collection of the primary data. The non-cooperation of the officials is evident from the fact that they did not fill up the questionnaires, and simply said that it would be sent by post. But unfortunately till the writing of this report no filled up forms had been sent to the project Director.

The Team started collection of primary data from the village Dhanavarsan of Bhiwani Block in its first leg. This village was basically Brahmin and Harijan dominated and gave the genuine look of poverty. We had heard a lot about the development of Haryana but this particular village did not give any impression on such development. The faces of the villagers itself told the

miseries and poverty of the villagers and left a typical impression of rural India on the minds of Research Team. Illiteracy ran supreme in the village. The entire land of the village was non-irrigated and the villagers faced even the problem of drinking water. The villagers were simple, innocent, clear hearted and did not prefer to hide anything from the Research Team.

The surplus land in the village was very limited and only eighteen persons had been assigned ceiling land. The allotment of land ran between four to eight acres. In this village one good point was noticed that the land was distributed only to the genuine beneficiaries and they were given the physical possession of the land.

In Haryana like Karnataka there was a practice to charge some fee ranging between Rs.2000/- and Rs.5000/- from the allottees of the land. Due to this practice it was observed that the poor villagers who were entitled to get the land but were not in a position to deposit the requisite fee were being deprived of the land. However, the Research Team noticed one very good thing that every Haryanavi irrespective of sex had the sense of dignity of labour. They hardly ^{bothered for}  doing even some inferior job. Ladies were particularly found to be very very hard working. Apart from their household affairs they used to help their male members on agricultural fields.

The general rural masses were of the opinion that the labour was very costly in Haryana and as such doing own work was in no way against one's prestige.

Surprisingly, like West Bengal and Karnataka, in Haryana too Land Reform measures were not linked up with I.R.D.P. One peculiar case of N.R.E.P. was reported from the village. For irrigational purposes a dry tank was to be dug. The B.D.O. asked the villagers to dig the tank under N.R.E.P. programme and the villagers did accordingly but the sad part was that no money or foodgrain had been released towards this end so far. The work was being done only on the assurance that as and when the fund would be released the money and the foodgrains would be distributed among the labourers on the basis of attendance register. It was quite surprising that under this unprecedented drought the labourers were not paid for their labour immediately and they had to depend on the money and foodgrain lenders to fill in their belly. It would have been much better had the officials procured the money and foodgrains first and then started the work. It would have served the purpose of helping the labourers in earning their two-square-meals in such a severe drought situation.

Though it would be out of context, yet seemed quite proper, to mention about the functioning of the state

government. In recently concluded general elections of State Legislature, the Chief Minister, Mr. Devi Lal, announced that the government and Bank loans of the villagers would be ^{written} / off. But the same ^{were} / still being realised / the villagers.

The next village visited by the Research Team was Badeshra of the same block on the same day. While discussing with the control group of the village on random basis the Research Team was informed that the allotment of ceiling land in that particular area was done in a hap hazard manner and no proper procedure was followed. Influence and money power played significant role in getting the land assigned. Anybody who had access to influential politicians and money to his command could get land allotted in his name. Similarly, it was also informed by the villagers that those who had influence got the irrigated land assigned in their name. Corrupt practices in the form of money was also being practiced as reported by common villagers.

On the whole after moving into different parts of the Bhiwani District. One might reach to the conclusion that no norm and basic administrative values were followed in Haryana while allotting the surplus land. In most of the cases verbal orders were obeyed. This fact was reflected clearly ^{during} / discussing with the cross section

of the society and after looking into the records of Patwari. Even the District Administration was found to be slack and no proper files were maintained. Even the concerned officer i.e. District Revenue Officer, was not available for discussion with the Research Team, in spite of the fact that one month's advance notice was given to the District Authorities about the tour programme of the Research Team. When the Research Team badly needed the District Revenue Officer for discussion, the City Magistrate sent a wireless message to the concerned official to join the duties but even after the wireless message the District Revenue Officer did not join and deprived the Research Team ^{of having any} / discussion. He had gone on leave one week's earlier to the arrival of Research Team.

The absence on the part of concerned official seemed to be deliberate. This impression was gathered by the Research Team after the visit of Badeshra village where some 26 peculiar cases of allottees of Ceiling Land was reported. Out of 26 such cases eight are quoted below:-

This particular village was surrounded by forests and the forest land was declared surplus way back in 1972. The land was to be distributed among the landless beneficiaries under Dry Land Development Programme. As

per state government orders the land was allotted to the beneficiaries in 1976 and the patta was distributed on the spot. The beneficiaries were asked to deposit the amount of the land in ten instalments, first being of Rs.500/- and remaining nine instalments of Rs.390/- each. The beneficiaries who were allotted the land belonged to scheduled caste and some how or other they deposited the requisite amount in government treasury through challan. But unfortunately neither the mutation took place so far nor the actual possession of the land was given to the beneficiaries. When this fact was enquired from the Patwari, he informed that the land belonged to local landlords and was declared surplus by the government. But before the land
by the government,
could be acquired / the ex-landlords settled the land with the forest department. The forest department started aforestation on that land. In the meanwhile the allottees of that land approached the district officials for mutation and taking physical possession of the land. They were given to understand, by the district officials, that the matter was under negotiation between forest department and district officials. They were further given assurance that as soon as the matter was settled the physical possession of the land would be given to the assignees and mutation

completed. It may be taken as surprising development as the matter related to schedule castes. On the one hand the central government is committed to provide all sorts of facilities to improve the socio-economic condition of the schedule castes, on the other the state government was so collous towards them that even after eleven years, physical possession was not given to the schedule caste beneficiaries inspite of the fact that they had deposited the requisite amount for the land 3 to 4 years back either by taking loan or from savings from their hard earnings. Out of 26 cases only 8 cases are cited here because of the fact that only these 8 beneficiaries on a surprise visit produced before the Research Team the patta and the money receipt. They were:-

1.	Jugto Ram S/O Gohli Ram	5 Acres
2.	Hukum Chand S/O Deep Chand	5 Acres
3.	Hawa Singh S/O Shiv Chand	5 Acres
4.	Bela Ram S/O Tulsi Ram	3½ Acres
5.	Deep Chand S/O Jawara	5 Acres
6.	Tek Chand S/O Jawara	3½ Acres
7.	Kedar Ram S/O Bahablu	3½ Acres
8.	Udey Singh S/O Bhodu Ram	3½ Acres

In another village named Jugani it was reported that Kitab Singh, Prakash and Jilley Singh were allotted

land but they sold it to other villagers. The reason for selling out the land was best known to themselves only. The villagers and other beneficiaries reported that they were surprised that these beneficiaries had sold the land. As per their estimates the beneficiaries were in no way in financial difficulties as they were easily earning their two square meals, they had good houses as also sufficient animals. The villagers reported that these beneficiaries might have sold the land as they never wanted to cultivate it and out of its sale price they might have planned to start some business.

A different type of case of Shri Karam Vir S/O Tara Chand was reported. The case was like this: Tara Chand, the father of Karam Vir was allotted 5 acres of land but before he could take the physical possession of the land, he died. After the death of his father Mr. Karam Vir approached the government officials to transfer the land in his name and provide the physical possession of the land to him. He was asked by the government officials to submit the death certificate of his father and Mr. Karam Vir produced it promptly. But, even after three years, neither the land had been transferred in his name nor physical possession of the land given to him.

Similarly, Mr. Jag Ram S/O Shobh Lal was allotted $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land on October 12, 1977 and was asked to deposit the first instalment of Rs.370/-. He deposited the amount well within the time. But even after 10 years neither he had been given the physical possession of the land nor the mutation taken place as the land was under litigation.

In Jugrani village it was also reported that in majority of the cases the rich and powerful farmers had so far compelled the assignees of ceiling land to surrender the land forcefully and had taken the possession of that land in their own hand. In certain cases the landlords had surrendered the land on paper and still had the physical possession. The villagers reported that due to their connections with high level politicians they were in informal possession of the land and the officials could not do anything against at all, they were them. If/pressurised by the government officials to surrender the land, they filed a case in the court and put the land under litigation. As reported by the poor villagers this was the usual practice being followed in that village.

In certain cases, it was reported by the common villagers that due to the influence of powerful politicians the beneficiaries of different and distant villages got

the land allotted in their name in some different villages and got the certificates from the local officials that they were the residents of that particular village.

It was also reported that some beneficiaries, who were in government service and were drawing a handsome salary, due to their access to high officials and state politicians, got irrigated surplus land allotted in their names.

There was one Mr. Gheesa Ram who was CRP Jawan. After his retirement from CRP he got a certificate of allotment of surplus land as he was a landless person. But he was not given the physical possession of the land. However, he approached the government officials for getting the physical possession of the land. But he was informed that the land was under litigation and as soon as the litigation was over the land ^{would} be handed over to him.

As per government rules in Haryana, those who are allotted surplus land have to pay Rs.1000/- per acre for irrigated land and Rs.375/- per acre for non-irrigated land as against the price of the land. Several other such cases of not being given the physical possession of the land was reported from various parts of the district.

On the whole it may be summarised that in Bhiwani district of Haryana, in more than 70% of the cases no physical possession was given to the beneficiaries.

One surprising fact which was observed was that no strict criteria ^{were} / followed in assigning the surplus ceiling land. In majority of the cases it was noticed that the land was allotted to those who had already five to ten acres of their own land and were leading a comfortable life. If land ^{was} / allotted to such type of persons naturally their economic condition would improve. But the question left to be answered is what about the economic condition of those, whose condition government actually wanted to improve?

Narnaul:

The Research Team after completing the field work of Bhiwani District of Haryana, in its first leg, reached to Narnaul on October 4, 1987 for collecting the field data. The Team after a brief discussion with the Deputy Commissioner and the City Magistrate, proceeded to different villages of the district to interview the beneficiaries of ceiling land.

In Bashir Pur village a case was reported that Mr. Challu Ram was allotted 3 acres of land but before he could take the physical possession of the land he died.

However, the land was transferred in the name of his two sons, Mr. Kanwar Singh and Balbir Singh. The government records still ^{showed} / that the land belonged to Kanwar Singh and Balbir Singh. But the fact is that they had not taken the physical possession of the land. When the Research Team enquired from the Surpancha as to why they had not taken physical possession, the Surpancha informed that the land allotted to them was not cultivable and if they took possession of the land they had to deposit the cost of the land to the government. Since it was a barren land and no cultivation could be made, they did not pay the cost of the land to the government and did not take the physical possession of the land.

Two cases, one of Ganesh and another of Jawala of Marauli Village, was reported who were allotted 2 acres and $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres land respectively and were given physical possession of the land. But they were the residents of Narnaul. After taking physical possession and depositing the full amount of the land and getting the mutation of the land ^{done} / in their name, they sold it to Mr. Sampat Ram of Marauli Village itself as it was not possible for them to come from Narnaul and cultivate the land. Several other such types of cases were reported from both the districts of Haryana.

hardly
Surprisingly, suchs type of cases were reported from Karnataka and West Bengal. Yet another this type of case from the village Dhorkala was reported. Bhooma of Dhorkala village was allotted $5\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land and after completing the usual paraphernalia and getting the mutation completed sold the land to Laddu Gujar of Marauli village as he was not interested in cultivating the land. Those were some of ^{the} disappointing and discouraging cases so far ^{as} assigning the surplus land was concerned.

However, some five cases in Narnaul district were of such a nature in which the goals of assigning the surplus land were achieved and the beneficiaries actually improved their economic condition. These five cases related to the beneficiaries of Saidpur/Ateli who were engaged in share-cropping in Saidpur village. But they were uprooted by the original landlords whose land they used to cultivate on share cropping basis and came down to the Baman Bas Bashti just like refugees. All the five were allotted 5 acres each surplus land in this particular Basti and were sincerely engaged in cultivation. Since all the five were allotted land at one place, out of their joint effort, they got tubewell connections by taking loan from the Banks. Now their land was irrigated, they have got their brick houses constructed and they were

doing well with the cultivation business. Apart from Bullocks they had also purchased Buffalos and apart from the cultivation they used to supply milk to nearby towns. They frankly admitted that after allotment of ceiling land they had actually improved their economic conditions. Now they easily got two square meals and met annual requirements of the family out of cultivation and milk supply. Now they had not to depend on the moneylenders to meet the unusual calamity and unforeseen and sudden expenditures of the family. These five cases should prove to be an eye opener to the government officials. Harayanivees ~~were~~ ^{were} so hard working that if they ~~are~~ given the actual possession of the land they could certainly improve their economic condition. But unfortunately in majority of the cases in Haryana the land reform measures were found to be in mess.

All through the Haryana tour, the 26 cases of Badesara village of Bhiwani district, puzzled the mind of Research Team. As such, the Research Team put this problem before the D.C. of Narnaul District, Chowdhary Chattar Singh. He admitted that these were the hard realities of the Haryana Villages. In regard to Dry Land Development Programme, he suggested some very good methods and informed that he experimented this method in

Jind district when he was the D.C. of that district. The experiment was like this: The Dry Land which could not be utilised for agricultural purposes might be utilised for forestry purposes. He informed that in Jind district such surplus Dry Land was allotted to the beneficiaries. Patta was issued in their name, and mutation took place. But, no physical possession of the land was given to the beneficiaries. The land was handed over to the Forest Department with a request that the aforestation may be made on that land. The aforestation cost was to be born by the District Administration from NREP and REGP funds. The forest department was ^{requested} \angle to transplant such types of trees which could be ready for cutting within five years. After five years the trees were to be cut and sold in the market. After ^{selling} \angle it, 70% of the actual amount was to be given to the assignees of the land and 30% to the government towards expenses on aforestation. After five years the actual possession of the land was given to the beneficiaries for the same purpose. He said that in Jind District this programme proved quite beneficial and successful.

The D.C. further opined that greatest benefit of this design was safety of the land from grabbing by the ex-landlords. He was of the opinion that since the land

had to remain under the government possession for five years, no landlord could dare to grab that land. And after five years time the ex-landlord might leave thinking about the land and would have no attraction or temptation for the land. As such if the actual possession of the land was given to the beneficiary after five years, he might not face the problem of grabbing the land and in the meanwhile he would be benefitted from that land.

The D.C. informed that Narnaul District was a DPAP District and as such in this District too this programme may prove quite successful. He expressed his commitment to introduce such programme in Narnaul District very soon.

Observations

On the basis of the interview with the beneficiaries and the officials as also the field diary maintained by the Research Team following observations could be made statewise:-

West Bengal

1. By and large, the method adopted for assigning the ceiling land to the beneficiaries seemed to be scientific.

2. It was heartening to note that in West Bengal, in more than 90% cases the land was assigned to those who were either landless or lived below the poverty line.
3. In rare cases political and bureaucratic favouritism could be observed in regard to allotment of surplus ceiling land. It was reflected from the fact that in recent years the land, in majority of cases, was assigned to those who were either supporters or members of left front government.
4. In spite of best efforts on the part of government machinery hardly 50% surplus land had been assigned so far to the beneficiaries. Remaining 50% was yet to be assigned.
5. It was observed that Dry Land Development Programme and Social Forestry Scheme had yet to take their roots in West Bengal.
6. Surprisingly it was observed that no attempt had been made so far to inter-link land reform measures with Integrated Rural Development Programmes.

7. In some cases forceful dispossession of land from the beneficiaries was also observed. However, the percentage was so low that it did not present any alarming picture.
8. In rare cases harvest Violence by the dominant section of the society over the poor assignees of surplus ceiling land was observed. However, it was disheartening to observe that the government machinery was not very much prompt and sincere in checking such types of violence.
9. A common phenomenon in all the three selected states observed was that against the instruction of the Central Government the names of both husband and wife was not entered in the mutation register. Only the name of the assignee, male or female, appeared in mutation register.

Karnataka

1. In Karnataka it was heartening to observe that no case of physical dispossession of beneficiaries from surplus ceiling land was noticed.

2. The landlords in Karnataka used to ^{have} / given choice of land for surrendering and it was observed that in 100% cases the landlords surrendered third grade land.
3. One thing peculiar to be observed was that in majority of the cases mutation took place without giving physical possession of the land to the beneficiaries.
4. A heartening point which was observed was that a sum of Rs.1000/- used to be given to the beneficiaries for cultivation. Out of this Rs.1000/-, Rs.800/- used ^{Societies for providing infra-} to be transferred to local agricultural Cooperative / structural facilities to the beneficiaries and Rs.200/- used to be given in cash to the beneficiaries towards development of the land.
5. It was disheartening to observe that Panchayats ^{reforms programmes.} were not involved with in the implementation of land /
6. At the time of survey, particularly in Mysore District, it was observed that no proper record of beneficiaries was maintained by District officials. In this District even the patta was ^{formally} not given / to the beneficiaries.

7. Tardy implementation of Land Reforms was observed due to political interference.
8. It was again disappointing to observe that in more than 70% cases no physical possession of the land was given to the beneficiaries, particularly in Mysore District.
9. Finally, officials were not found to be so keen on implementing land reform laws.

Haryana

1. Inefficiency and negligence on the part of officials was observed in regard to Land Reform Measures, particularly in Bhiwani District.
2. Fees used to be charged from the beneficiaries of surplus ceiling land both in the states of Haryana and Karnataka, West Bengal being an exception.
3. In majority of cases no proper procedure was followed in assigning the surplus ceiling land to the beneficiaries in both the districts of Haryana. Land used to be assigned to the beneficiaries in haphazard manner.

4. A very serious thing which was observed was that political influence played a vital role in getting the land assigned in the name of particular beneficiary.
5. In certain cases corrupt practices in form of bribe (orally substantiated by beneficiaries) were observed.
6. The District level Land Reform bureaucracy was found to be slack as also unaware about the structure of Revenue Administration in the state. Particularly in Bhiwani District no proper file was maintained at the District level.
7. In certain cases it was observed that land was assigned to those persons who were not at all interested in cultivating the land and in course of time sold it out for starting some business.
8. Forced evacuation of the land of beneficiaries by powerful sections of the society was observed in some cases particularly in Bhiwani District.
9. A very peculiar phenomenon which was observed only in Haryana was that in majority of cases land was assigned to those people who had already 5 to 10 acres of land to their credit.

10. In case of Haryana, like Karnataka, it was also observed that in some cases on physical possession of the land had been given to the beneficiaries.
11. A peculiar thing which was noticed was that the land belonging to a particular village had been assigned to a person who belonged to other distant village.

CHAPTER-VI

FULFILMENT OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

I

On the basis of our findings in regard to Economic Condition of Assignees of Ceiling Land in concerned three States i.e., Haryana, Karnataka and West Bengal, the objectives of the study so designed and their fulfilment could be summarised as follows:-

1. In regard to the first objective i.e., 'criteria for assigning the land to the landless', there is a common and uniform guideline to be followed in the whole of the country. The following category of people are entitled to get surplus ceiling land assigned in their names: (i) Dispossessed tenants who are not registered as occupants, (ii) Displaced tenants having no land, (iii) Landless agricultural labourers, (iv) Landless persons and ex-military personnel whose gross annual income does not exceed Rs.2000/-, (v) Released bonded labourers, and (vi) Other persons residing in villages in same panchayat and whose gross annual income does not exceed Rs.2000/-.

By and large, in all the three selected states the above criteria ^{were} followed. However, in some cases either due to political pressure or some sort of favouritism a negligible percentage of people who do

not fall in the above category got the land assigned in their names. But, such type of cases were reported in greater number in Haryana in comparison to other two States, i.e., Karnataka and West Bengal. When asked about such irregularities the officials reported that they honestly tried their best to follow the criteria strictly but undue political interference compelled them to deviate from the set principles. In West Bengal, the criteria used to be followed strictly but due to political pressure some favours were reported to have shown to those beneficiaries who ~~were committed to~~ / the political ideology of the ruling party, and, naturally some innocent and non-committed genuine beneficiaries are denied the opportunity. In Haryana, a few cases came to our notice in which persons belonging to different villages and different panchayats had been allotted surplus ceiling land in distant panchayat areas, which were against and in violation of the set principles. But, they were insignificant in number.

On the whole, it could be said that by and large, the first objective of the study was achieved in the sense, that the officials tried to adhere ^{as far as possible,} / to the guidelines fixed for allotment of surplus ceiling land.

2. Coming to the second objective, i.e., 'to ascertain whether the assignees cultivate the land or have been

'dispossessed', it is heartening to note that, if given the actual possession of the land, beneficiaries generally cultivated the land. This was uniformly, by and large, noticed in all the three states under study. But, this objective may not be said to be fulfilled in the sense that in certain cases in all the three states the actual possession was not given to beneficiaries and as such, the question of cultivating the land by beneficiaries did not arise. The reason for not giving the actual possession of the land was litigation on the said plot as reported by officials.

Only in rare cases ^{the} / incidence of dispossession was reported by the beneficiaries. In West Bengal, even after giving actual possession of the land in some cases, beneficiaries did not cultivate the land and the reason assigned by them was that the land was so small and there ^{such a dearth of} was / facility of irrigation ~~that~~ they could not cultivate on the assigned land. Again, in West Bengal it was reported by ^{a number of} / beneficiaries that some of the beneficiaries of surplus ceiling land had let out the assigned land to share croppers which was against and in violation of the rule. Such cases were reported to the government officials by the Research Team during its field visit. In Haryana, it was also came to the notice of Research Team that some beneficiaries had sold

their assigned land to the small and big farmers and out of that sale proceeds they had started some business. In some cases land was assigned to those who were a genuine beneficiaries but were not interested in cultivation.

3. In regard to the third objective i.e., 'if dispossessed of land, to ascertain, whether it was result of social and political force or economic necessities', it could be said that, if at all there was any dispossession, it was result of both social and political pressure and economic necessity. However, dispossession on account of economic necessities was negligible as per our observations and findings.
4. The fourth objective was 'to examine the effectiveness of land reform Acts in protecting the beneficiaries from dispossession and exploitation. In this connection it could be said that the land reform acts of all the three states under study provide sufficient protection for the beneficiaries from dispossession and exploitation provided that they are genuinely enforced and bureaucracy is committed to safeguard the general interests of the beneficiaries. By and large, the bureaucracy seeks to protect the beneficiaries but if some cases of exploitation and dispossession come to the

notice they may not be treated as matter of serious concern as they ^{are} very small in number and in a vast-society like our such negligible cases cannot be ruled out altogether.

5. As regards the fifth objective i.e., 'based on time schedule data, to assess their economic condition after becoming the beneficiaries of surplus ceiling land', it can be said that undoubtedly the beneficiaries, who are in actual possession of the land and cultivating it, have improved their socio-economic condition substantially. The improvement in socio-economic conditions ^{the} of beneficiaries is a common phenomenon in all the three states under study. A marked change could be noticed in their food habits, dress-habits and living conditions. A detailed description has already been provided in Chapter-IV. They have not only improved their economic conditions but a noticeable change in their social status could also be observed. Now they could freely mix up with lower middle class and could dare speak against the high handedness of affluent and dominant section of the society. Not only this they also enjoy better social position among those people living below the poverty line and have not become the beneficiaries of surplus Ceiling Land.

6. The sixth objective was 'to locate the bottlenecks which exist in proper implementation of land reform measures and judicious distribution of surplus ceiling land'. As regards fulfilment of this objective, it is disheartening to note that due to undue political interference and administrative negligence some bottlenecks existed. For example in Karnataka, in two to three cases it was noticed that land was assigned to three particular beneficiaries but they were not allowed to enter into their field for cultivation by some dominant people. Had the administration ^{been} alive to its responsibilities the poor beneficiaries would not have been deprived of cultivating their land. Again, in Haryana some ex-Army-men had been allotted land but were not given formal possession of the land due to some procedural problems. In West Bengal, in two to three cases, it was noticed that the land which was purchased by some beneficiaries some ten to fifteen years back was declared surplus by the ex-landlords, and as a result, the ^{poor} fellows had to become the beneficiaries of surplus land though they had paid for the land.

Similarly in regard to judicious distribution of surplus ceiling land the political and administrative bottlenecks were located in a few cases in all the three States under study.

7. As regards the seventh objective i.e. 'whether the beneficiaries of surplus ceiling land are better off as compared to non-beneficiaries' no formal data were collected on this account as it was out of purview of the present study. However informal discussion was hold with non-beneficiaries and the beneficiaries themselves were pointedly asked as to whether they were in better financial and social position in comparison to non-beneficiaries.

Our informal discussion with non-beneficiaries and personal observation as also the reply of the beneficiaries suggest that certainly they have improved their social and economic position and they have gone ahead of non-beneficiaries.

8. Finally, based on our empirical enquiry, the last objective was to suggest ways and means for effective and better utilization of assigned land by the beneficiaries. The fulfilment of the present objective finds a detailed discussion in the form of recommendations in the second section of the present chapter.

II

RECOMMENDATIONS

In view of the fulfilment of objectives of the study and the salient findings obtained, we recommend the following measures for effective distribution of surplus ceiling land and improving the socio-economic condition of assignees of surplus ceiling land. The recommendations have been divided into three heads which are as follows:-

I. Legislative Measures

- 1) Following criteria may be adopted for identifying the beneficiaries for assigning surplus ceiling land:
 - (i) Poorest of the Poor;
 - (ii) Landless agricultural labourers not engaged in any other business or profession and willing to bring the land (in case of agricultural land) under personal cultivation;
 - (iii) The beneficiary must be the resident of the village in which land has to be assigned.

Among the eligible persons, so identified, preference may be given to the tenants/sub-tenants/actual cultivators of the vested land and also to the persons belonging to scheduled-caste/scheduled tribes or those who form cooperative societies for the said purpose.

- 2) The deserving and genuine landless persons who are really interested in cultivation may be given as much quantity of land as required for minimum economic holding. At the same time, if necessary, the existing statutory ceiling limit for assigning land to the landless poor peasants may be increased.
- 3) For the land vested in government and to be settled in the name of the beneficiary, no premium should be charged.
- 4) Every state, in its Land Reform Act, should incorporate adequate punitive measures (such as eviction from the land) against the beneficiaries who fail to cultivate the land personally for consecutive three seasons and to prevent illegal transfer of land by the beneficiaries. For enforcement of such statutory measures necessary steps should also be taken.
- 5) Since the big landlords often take shelter in the court of law and put resistance to the vesting of land in the State Government, it may be suggested that the movement of landlords against vesting of land should be restricted to the revenue courts only and adequate steps should be taken for speedy disposal of such cases.

- 6) After bringing the tenants and sharecroppers on the record, ownership rights may be conferred upon them. Wherever such legislative provisions are non-existent, they should be made as early as possible. After leaving sources of reasonable income for religious institutions, the state may consider conferment of ownership rights on tenants of the surplus land held by these institutions. Alternatively a provision of an immunity to compensate for possible loss of land be made. While conferring ownership rights on tenants, state may also consider barring lawyers from the proceedings.
- 7) Immediate legislative steps should be taken to acquire that part of surplus land which is not under litigation. At the same time, where the parties are agreeable, the state may also make provisions for taking over surplus land in anticipation of the completion of proceedings.
- 8) After entering the surplus ceiling land in the record and making physical demarcation of the land, the assignees of surplus ceiling land may be given physical possession. Adequate legislative provisions should be made to provide the beneficiaries ^{with} security from eviction and to ensure prompt action for restoration of the evicted land.

- 9) Whenever the surplus ceiling land is assigned by the government, legal provision may be made for giving joint patta in the name of both husband and wife.
- 10) Necessary legislative provisions may be made in regard to patta pass with legal status and to be issued to land owners as well as tenants.
- 11) To identify the non-cultivable government land, the revenue department may seek cooperation of panchayats or the communities. The list of, so identified land, may be forwarded to DRDA/Block to take up social forestry with fuelwood, fruit and fodder species. Legislative provisions should also be made for granting tree pattas/leases giving unfructuary rights on trees planted and looked after by individuals on such waste lands with government, panchayats or communities in order to involve the people in the massive greening programme of social forestry and to give them necessary incentives.

II. Administrative Measures

- 1) There should be a separate cell in the Settlement/Block Development Office for maintaining the detailed records relating to the acquisition and distribution

of surplus ceiling land. Such records should be maintained in pucca Register separately for agricultural and non-agricultural land as also for the land used for public purposes and necessary arrangements be made for their periodical scrutiny.

- 2) The field study of West Bengal ^{demonstrates} / the potentiality of local bodies in the implementation of land reforms. It is, therefore, suggested that the elected panchayats should be activated to assist the administration at the grass-root level in identification, acquisition and distribution of Benami and surplus ceiling land. The panchayats may also help the government officials in protecting the beneficiaries' rights and interests against illegal dispossession or transfer of land.
- 3) Necessary steps should be taken for genuine selection of beneficiaries. Like Bhoomi Sahayak Samiti of the Gram Panchayats in West Bengal, there should be a separate committee of the panchayat in every village to prepare the list of eligible beneficiaries of the locality on the criteria mentioned above. Subject to thorough verification and approval of the concerned officials of the State Government, surplus ceiling land, as and when available, should be distributed strictly on the basis of prepared list.

- 4) The government machinery at the District and Block level should keep a close and constant vigil with the help of panchayats and local bodies so that the beneficiaries of vested land are not evicted from or dispossessed of the land. Necessary administrative and legal actions should be taken immediately after any such case of eviction or dispossession comes to the notice of officials concerned of the State Government.
- 5) To ascertain the actual state of illegal or forceful dispossession and disposal of assigned land as also the factors responsible for them, periodical sample survey should be conducted.
- 6) Specially for the expeditious disposal of pending cases of litigation with revenue and other courts, an analysis of the gaps between estimated surplus, declared surplus, possession taken, land distributed as well as the disposal of pending returns should be undertaken for a time-bound remedial action.
- 7) To have a manageable areal jurisdiction, there is a need to strengthen the revenue machinery at the village and immediate supervisory level.
- 8) There is also a need for training of these persons as well as the staff engaged in survey settlement.

- 9) There is also a need for modernization including computerization of land and crop based statistics on a pilot basis.

III. Development Measures

- 1) Our study suggests that despite some marginal improvement in the socio-economic conditions of the deprived and downtrodden beneficiaries in terms of enhancement of their social status and the sense of dignity, distribution of surplus ceiling land has nowhere resulted in considerable and apparently visible improvement in economic condition of the beneficiaries mainly because of the lack of follow-up actions. We, therefore, strongly recommend for taking follow-up actions to improve the economic conditions of the beneficiaries. Such actions should include, inter-alia, regular and timely supply of seeds, manures, pesticides, and other agricultural inputs to the needy and deserving beneficiaries, extension of credit facilities for the purchase of costly agricultural implements and extension of irrigational facilities particularly in drought-prone areas.
- 2) It is also suggested that financial subsidies of central and state governments should be increased to make the follow-up action meaningful and result-oriented.

- 3) Majority of the assignees of surplus ceiling lands who were interviewed, appeared to be ignorant of the credit facilities, whatsoever, available to them. It is, therefore, suggested that panchayats and voluntary agencies should be encouraged to come-up for providing necessary information to the beneficiaries about the availability of credit facilities and also helping them in completing necessary formalities to get such facilities.
- 4) We strongly feel that the government assistance be given in kind and not in cash. Following the suit of Karnataka, other states may also arrange for distribution of agricultural implements to the needy and deserving assignees through the cooperative stores. However, a small amount in cash may be given to the beneficiaries towards development of the land for agricultural purposes.
- 5) Where the quantity of lands available for distribution ^{is less than the} / number of eligible beneficiaries, emphasis should be given on cooperative farming. However, in such cases the state governments should ensure that the Cooperative Farms are provided with modern and sophisticated agricultural implements necessary for increasing the productivity of the land.

- 6) To enable the beneficiaries to improve the cultivable land, special assistance should be given to those assignees who have been assigned inferior quality of land.
- 7) In order to integrate the land reforms with IRDP/NREP/RLEGP/DPAP/DLDP, the scheme of financial assistance to the assignees of surplus ceiling land may be implemented through the DRDAs.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Rural Development, Government of India, as also the State Governments might have taken various measures to make the land reforms a success. But, our concern here is confined only to giving physical possession of the surplus ceiling land to the beneficiaries, getting the mutation completed, providing agricultural inputs and ensuring the beneficiaries against forceful eviction from assigned land. We sincerely hope that if recommendations put forward by us are taken into account and implement^{ed} without further delay, the economic condition of assignees of surplus ceiling land will certainly improve and they will be in a position to get two square meals for their families. In course of the time this will also improve their social status in a tradition bound society like ours where affluence decides the social status of an individual.

Response of beneficiaries in regard to improvement of cattle wealth

Item: Bull

N=40 for each district

<u>HARYANA</u>								
Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	26	65%	20	50%	23	57.5%	26	65%
1	10	25%	16	40%	13	32.5%	8	20%
2-4	4	10%	4	10%	4	10%	6	15%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

<u>KARNATAKA</u>								
	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	0	-	33	82.5%	0	-	36	90%
1	0	-	1	2.5%	0	-	3	7.5%
2-4	0	-	6	15%	0	-	1	2.5%
5-10	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-
10 & above	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-
Total	0	-	40	100%	0	-	40	100%

<u>WEST BENGAL</u>								
	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Item: Camel

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	32	80%	30	75%	30	75%	28	70%
1	8	20%	10	25%	10	25%	12	30%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	0	-	37	92.5%	38	95%	36	90%
1	0	-	1	2.5%	1	2.5%	1	2.5%
2-4	0	-	2	5%	1	2.5%	3	7.5%
5-10	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	0	-	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Item: Goat

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	34	85%	31	77.5%	0	-	30	75%
1	5	12.5%	5	12.5%	0	-	7	17.5%
2-4	-	-	1	2.5%	0	-	3	7.5%
5-10	1	2.5%	1	2.5%	0	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	2	5%	0	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	0	-	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	39	97.5%	35	87.5%	0	-	34	85%
1	-	-	1	2.5%	0	-	5	12.5%
2-4	-	-	4	10%	0	-	1	2.5%
5-10	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-
10 & above	1	2.5%	-	-	0	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	0	-	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	23	57.5%	16	40%	34	85%	24	60%
1	3	7.5%	3	7.5%	3	7.5%	6	15%
2-4	13	32.5%	17	42.5%	3	7.5%	7	17.5%
5-10	1	2.5%	4	10%	-	-	3	7.5%
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Cow

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. no.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	28	70%	26	65%	16	40%	14	35%
1	9	22.5%	8	20%	15	37.5%	18	45%
2-4	1	2.5%	6	15%	8	20%	7	17.5%
5-10	2	5%	-	-	1	2.5%	1	2.5%
10 & above	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	39	97.5%	27	67.5%	0	-	28	70%
1	1	2.5%	2	5%	0	-	8	20%
2-4	0	-	11	27.5%	0	-	4	10%
5-10	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
10 & above	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	0	-	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	36	90%	32	80%	38	95%	28	70%
1	2	5%	6	15%	1	2.5%	7	17.5%
2-4	1	2.5%	2	5%	1	2.5%	5	12.5%
5-10	1	2.5%	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Buffalo

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	20	50%	12	30%	17	42.5%	14	35%
1	14	35%	18	45%	15	37.5%	17	42.5%
2-4	6	15%	10	25%	8	20%	8	20%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.5%
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	39	97.5%	34	85%	36	90%	30	75%
1	-	-	4	10%	4	10%	4	10%
2-4	1	2.5%	2	5%	-	-	6	15%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	39	97.5%	37	92.5%	38	95%	36	90%
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.5%
2-4	1	2.5%	2	5%	2	5%	3	7.5%
5-10	-	-	1	2.5%	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Response of Beneficiaries in regard to Utensils

Utensils of Mud

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	8	20%	8	20%	6	15%	8	20%
1	9	22.5%	5	12.5%	6	15%	4	10%
2-4	23	57.5%	27	67.5%	27	67.5%	28	70%
5-10	-	-	-	-	1	2.5%	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	4	10%	3	7.5%	6	15%	6	15%
1	15	37.5%	5	12.5%	6	15%	3	7.5%
2-4	21	52.5%	32	80%	25	62.5%	24	60%
5-10	-	-	-	-	2	5%	6	15%
10 & above	-	-	-	-	1	2.5%	1	2.5%
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	5	12.5%	3	7.5%	13	32.5%	12	30%
1	22	55%	8	20%	14	35%	10	25%
2-4	13	32.5%	29	72.5%	13	32.5%	18	45%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Brass

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	28	70%	20	50%	24	60%	20	50%
1	12	30%	14	35%	11	27.5%	8	20%
2-4	-	-	6	15%	5	12.5%	12	30%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	36	90%	35	87.5%	-	-	33	82.5%
1	-	-	2	5%	-	-	3	7.5%
2-4	4	10%	3	7.5%	-	-	4	10%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	-	-	38	95%	37	92.5%	36	90%
1	-	-	-	-	1	2.5%	-	-
2-4	-	-	1	2.5%	2	5%	3	7.5%
5-10	-	-	1	2.5%	-	-	1	2.5%
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Aluminium

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	18	45%	8	20%	18	45%	12	30%
1	15	37.5%	5	12.5%	9	22.5%	5	12.5%
2-4	7	17.5%	27	67.5%	13	32.5%	23	57.5%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	30	75%	14	35%	16	40%	6	15%
1	-	-	-	-	5	12.5%	1	2.5%
2-4	10	25%	25	62.5%	14	35%	26	65%
5-10	-	-	1	2.5%	5	12.5%	6	15%
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.5%
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	9	22.5%	4	10%	12	30%	-	-
1	2	5%	2	5%	2	5%	-	-
2-4	27	67.5%	18	45%	26	65%	21	52.5%
5-10	2	5%	15	37.5%	-	-	16	40%
10 & above	-	-	1	2.5%	-	-	3	7.5%
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Bronze

N=40 for each district

<u>HARYANA</u>								
Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	30	75%	22	55%	16	40%	18	45%
1	9	22.5%	11	27.5%	14	35%	8	20%
2-4	1	2.5%	7	17.5%	10	25%	14	35%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%
<u>KARNATAKA</u>								
	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	-	-	34	85%	36	90%	30	75%
1	-	-	4	10%	4	10%	5	12.5%
2-4	-	-	2	5%	-	-	5	12.5%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%
<u>WEST BENGAL</u>								
	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	31	77.5%	29	72.5%	32	80%	27	67.5%
1	2	5%	1	2.5%	2	5%	2	5%
2-4	7	17.5%	9	22.5%	6	15%	10	25%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.5%
10 & above	-	-	1	2.5%	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Steel

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	35	87.5%	18	45%	34	85%	6	15%
1	5	12.5%	4	10%	3	7.5%	4	10%
2-4	-	-	18	45%	3	7.5%	26	65%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	10%
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	-	-	33	82.5%	34	85%	22	55%
1	-	-	2	5%	2	5%	2	5%
2-4	-	-	5	12.5%	4	10%	14	35%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5%
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	32	80%	30	75%	33	82.5%	27	67.5%
1	6	15%	2	5%	-	-	-	-
2-4	2	5%	8	20%	7	17.5%	8	20%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	12.5%
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Response of beneficiaries in regard to clothing

Item: Woollen

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	34	85%	28	70%	35	87.5%	25	62.5%
1	6	15%	12	30%	5	12.5%	13	32.5%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	36	90%	32	80%	30	75%	28	70%
1	4	10%	8	20%	10	25%	12	30%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	36	90%	29	72.5%	37	92.5%	29	72.5%
1	4	10%	11	27.5%	3	7.5%	11	27.5%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Terecott

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	36	90%	10	25%	32	80%	12	30%
1	4	10%	27	67.5%	8	20%	20	50%
2-4	-	-	3	7.5%	-	-	8	20%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	35	87.5%	22	55%	33	82.5%	18	45%
1	5	12.5%	7	17.5%	6	15%	6	15%
2-4	-	-	11	27.5%	1	2.5%	15	37.5%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.5%
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	34	85%	20	50%	29	72.5%	20	50%
1	6	15%	20	50%	10	25%	12	30%
2-4	-	-	-	-	1	2.5%	8	20%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Mill Cotton

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	16	40%	13	32.5%	30	75%	28	70%
1	22	55%	24	60%	10	25%	12	30%
2-4	2	5%	3	7.5%	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	4	10%	2	5%	16	40%	10	25%
1	22	55%	6	15%	7	17.5%	5	12.5%
2-4	14	35%	32	80%	17	42.5%	23	57.5%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.5%
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.5%
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	30	75%	24	60%	25	62.5%	19	47.5%
1	10	25%	12	30%	15	37.5%	16	40%
2-4	-	-	4	10%	-	-	5	12.5%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Khadi

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	12	30%	12	30%	6	15%	5	12.5%
1	16	40%	6	15%	10	25%	10	25%
2-4	12	30%	22	55%	24	60%	25	62.5%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	31	77.5%	28	70%	24	60%	22	55%
1	9	22.5%	8	20%	11	27.5%	10	25%
2-4	-	-	4	10%	5	12.5%	6	15%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5%
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	20	50%	14	35%	27	67.5%	22	55%
1	19	47.5%	11	27.5%	13	32.5%	8	20%
2-4	1	2.5%	15	37.5%	-	-	10	25%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Handloom

N = 40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	32	80%	30	75%	36	90%	26	65%
1	8	20%	9	22.5%	4	10%	12	30%
2-4	-	-	1	2.5%	-	-	2	5%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	33	82.5%	35	87.5%	28	70%	27	67.5%
1	5	22.5%	3	7.5%	9	22.5%	3	7.5%
2-4	2	5%	2	5%	3	7.5%	7	17.5%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	7.5%
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	15	37.5%	13	32.5%	12	30%	-	-
1	20	50%	20	50%	22	55%	-	-
2-4	5	12.5%	7	17.5%	6	15%	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	-	-

Response of beneficiaries in regard to improvement in comfort

Item: Factory Made Shoes

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	Afer	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	34	85%	30	75%	32	80%	35	87.5%
1	6	15%	10	25%	8	20%	5	12.5%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	Afer	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	39	97.5%	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	1	2.5%	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	-	-	-	-	-	-

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	Afer	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Item: Cloth Shoes

N = 40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	35	87.5%	33	82.5%	31	77.5%	27	67.5%
1	5	12.5%	7	17.5%	9	22.5%	13	32.5%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	30	75%	28	70%	36	90%	32	80%
1	10	25%	12	30%	4	10%	8	20%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	34	85%	36	90%	38	95%	33	82.5%
1	6	15%	4	10%	2	5%	7	17.5%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Tyre Chappals

N = 40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	22	55%	21	52.5%	20	50%	18	45%
1	18	45%	19	47.5%	20	50%	22	55%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	28	70%	21	52.5%	32	80%	24	60%
1	12	30%	19	47.5%	8	20%	15	37.5%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.5%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	10	25%	8	20%	21	52.5%	16	40%
1	30	75%	32	80%	19	47.5%	24	60%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Rough Shoes

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	24	60%	18	45%	26	65%	20	50%
1	16	40%	22	55%	14	35%	20	50%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	35	87.5%	26	65%	38	95%	34	85%
1	5	12.5%	14	35%	2	5%	6	15%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	30	75%	28	70%	39	97.5%	36	90%
1	10	25%	12	30%	1	2.5%	4	10%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Response of beneficiaries in regard to improvement in ornaments

Item: Gold

N = 40 for each district

<u>HARYANA</u>								
<u>Bhiwani District</u>					<u>Narnaul District</u>			
Sl. No.	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	34	85%	15	37.5%	30	75%	21	52.5%
1	6	15%	18	45%	8	20%	11	27.5%
2-4	-	-	7	17.5%	2	5%	8	20%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%
<u>KARNATAKA</u>								
<u>Tumkur District</u>					<u>Mysore District</u>			
Nil	34	85%	32	80%	38	95%	26	65%
1	6	15%	8	20%	2	5%	12	30%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%
<u>WEST BENGAL</u>								
<u>Nadia District</u>					<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
Nil	-	-	39	97.5%	-	-	31	77.5%
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	17.5%
2-4	-	-	1	2.5%	-	-	2	5%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	40	100%	-	-	40	100%

Item: Silver

N = 40 for each district

<u>HARYANA</u>								
Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	26	65%	24	60%	26	65%	25	62.5%
1	13	32.5%	15	37.5%	11	27.5%	12	30%
2-4	-	-	-	-	3	7.5%	3	7.5%
5-10	1	2.5%	1	2.5%	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%
<u>KARNATAKA</u>								
	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	-	-	-	-	38	95%	34	85%
1	-	-	-	-	2	5%	5	12.5%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.5%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	40	100%	40	100%
<u>WEST BENGAL</u>								
	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	-	-	32	80%	35	87.5%	28	70%
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-4	-	-	8	20%	5	12.5%	12	30%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Plastic

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	36	90%	33	82.5%	35	87.5%	30	75%
1	3	7.5%	6	15%	5	12.5%	10	25%
2-4	1	2.5%	1	2.5%	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

WEST BENGAL

	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	31	77.5%	19	47.5%	18	45%	12	30%
1	-	-	1	2.5%	-	-	-	-
2-4	9	22.5%	20	50%	22	55%	28	70%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Response of beneficiaries in regard to improvement
in furniture comfort

Item: Watch

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	34	85%	30	75%	35	90%	32	80%
1	6	15%	10	25%	4	10%	8	20%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	35	87.5%	30	75%	33	82.5%	28	70%
1	5	12.5%	10	25%	7	17.5%	12	30%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	31	77.5%	29	72.5%	32	80%	26	65%
1	9	22.5%	11	27.5%	8	20%	14	35%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Cycle

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	34	85%	30	75%	36	90%	32	80%
1	6	15%	10	25%	4	10%	8	20%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	35	87.5%	31	77.5%	33	82.5%	28	70%
1	5	12.5%	9	22.5%	7	17.5%	12	30%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	35	87.5%	29	72.5%	34	85%	27	67.5%
1	5	12.5%	11	27.5%	6	15%	13	32.5%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Radio

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	35	87.5%	32	80%	38	95%	30	75%
1	5	12.5%	8	20%	2	5%	10	25%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	34	85%	30	75%	33	82.5%	28	70%
1	6	15%	10	25%	7	17.5%	12	30%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	36	90%	30	75%	31	77.5%	26	65%
1	4	10%	10	25%	9	22.5%	14	35%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Furniture

N=40 for each district

<u>HARYANA</u>								
<u>Bhiwani District</u>					<u>Narnaul District</u>			
Sl. No.	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	34	85%	32	80%	36	90%	30	75%
1	6	15%	8	20%	4	10%	9	22.5%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.5%
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

<u>KARNATAKA</u>								
<u>Tumkur District</u>					<u>Mysore District</u>			
Nil	29	72.5%	26	65%	31	77.5%	22	55%
1	11	27.5%	14	35%	9	22.5%	18	45%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

<u>WEST BENGAL</u>								
<u>Nadia District</u>					<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
Nil	35	87.5%	32	80%	28	70%	26	65%
1	5	12.5%	8	20%	12	30%	14	35%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Cott

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	8	20%	6	15%	6	15%	5	12.5%
1	2	5%	4	10%	1	2.5%	2	5%
2-4	24	60%	10	25%	21	52.5%	6	15%
5-10	6	15%	19	47.5%	10	25%	26	65%
10 & above	-	-	1	2.5%	2	5%	1	2.5%
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	36	90%	33	82.5%	32	80%	26	65%
1	2	5%	4	10%	4	10%	10	25%
2-4	2	5%	3	7.5%	4	10%	4	10%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	35	87.5%	32	80%	34	85%	30	75%
1	5	12.5%	8	20%	6	15%	10	25%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Other Furniture

N=40 for each district

HARYANA

Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	8	20%	6	15%	6	15%	5	12.5%
1	2	5%	4	10%	1	2.5%	2	5%
2-4	24	60%	10	25%	21	52.5%	6	15%
5-10	6	15%	19	47.5%	10	25%	26	65%
10 & above	-	-	1	2.5%	2	5%	1	2.5%
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

KARNATAKA

Sl. No.	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	36	90%	33	82.5%	32	80%	26	65%
1	2	5%	4	10%	4	10%	10	25%
2-4	2	5%	3	7.5%	4	10%	4	10%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

WEST BENGAL

Sl. No.	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	35	87.5%	32	80%	34	85%	30	75%
1	5	12.5%	8	20%	6	15%	10	25%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Item: Mat

N=40 for each district

<u>HARYANA</u>								
Sl. No.	<u>Bhiwani District</u>				<u>Narnaul District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	32	80%	28	70%	34	85%	25	62.5%
1	8	20%	12	30%	6	15%	15	37.5%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%
<u>KARNATAKA</u>								
	<u>Tumkur District</u>				<u>Mysore District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	38	95%	26	65%	30	75%	24	60%
1	2	5%	11	27.5%	10	25%	15	37.5%
2-4	-	-	3	7.5%	-	-	1	2.5%
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%
<u>WEST BENGAL</u>								
	<u>Nadia District</u>				<u>Murshidabad District</u>			
	Before	%age	After	%age	Before	%age	After	%age
Nil	35	87.5%	22	55%	36	90%	26	65%
1	5	12.5%	18	45%	4	10%	14	35%
2-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 & above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%	40	100%

Table showing land holding by beneficiaries
of the three States

N = 40 for each district

HARYANA				
	Bhiwani	Percentage	Narnaul	Percentage
10 Khetas - 1 Acre	12	30%	10	25%
1 - 3 Acres	8	20%	10	25%
3 - 5 Acres	11	27.5%	9	22.5%
5 Acres & more	9	22.5%	11	27.5%
Total	40	100%	40	100%
KARNATAKA				
	Tumkur	Percentage	Mysore	Percentage
10 Khetas - 1 Acre	9	22.5%	8	20%
1 - 3 Acres	20	50%	23	57.5%
3 - 5 Acres	1	2.5%	9	22.5%
5 Acres & more	10	25%	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%
WEST BENGAL				
	Nadia	Percentage	Murshidabad	Percentage
10 Khetas - 1 Acre	30	75%	37	92.5%
1 - 3 Acres	4	10%	3	7.5%
3 - 5 Acres	6	15%	-	-
5 Acres & more	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%

Table showing irrigation facilities to the beneficiaries of the three States

N=40 for each district

HARYANA				
	Bhiwani	Percentage	Narnaul	Percentage
Land irrigated	15	37.5%	10	25%
Land Non-irrigated	25	62.5%	30	75%
Total	40	100%	40	100%
KARNATAKA				
	Tumkur	Percentage	Mysore	Percentage
Land irrigated	-	-	11	27.5%
Land non-irrigated	40	100%	29	72.5%
Total	40	100%	40	100%
WEST BENGAL				
	Nadia	Percentage	Murshidabad	Percentage
Land irrigated	12	30%	18	45%
Land non-irrigated	28	70%	22	55%
Total	40	100%	40	100%

Table showing crops in a year of beneficiaries of the three States
N=40 for each district

HARYANA				
	Bhiwani	Percentage	Narnaul	Percentage
Crop-1	10	25%	15	37.5%
Crop-2	30	75%	25	62.5%
More than 2 crops	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%
KARNATAKA				
	Tumkur	Percentage	Mysore	Percentage
Crop-1	38	95%	35	87.5%
Crop-2	2	5%	5	12.5%
More than 2 crops	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%
WEST BENGAL				
	Nadia	Percentage	Murshidabad	Percentage
Crop-1	8	20%	7	17.5%
Crop-2	32	80%	33	82.5%
More than 2 crops	-	-	-	-
Total	40	100%	40	100%

IMPLEMENTATION OF CEILING LAWS - MONTHLY PROGRESS
REPORT IN RESPECT OF DISTRIBUTION OF SURPLUS LAND

STATE: HARYANA

Report for the month ending
November, 1987

(Area shown in Acres)

Sr. No.	Item	Pre-revised Laws	Revised Ceiling Law	Progressive total since inception (Col. 3+4)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	<u>No. of Returns Filed:</u>			
	(a) Voluntarily	6,191	23,834	30,025
	(b) On official initiative	1,435	43	1,478
	(c) Total	7,626	23,877	31,503
2.	<u>Progress of Scrutiny:</u>			
	(a) No. of cases disposed of	7,626	23,575	31,201
	(b) No. of cases pending	-	302	302
3.	<u>Total Area Declared as Surplus (Excluding Exemptions)</u>	93,649	25,590	1,19,239
4.	<u>Area under Appeals/Stay Orders</u>	4,286	4,252	8,538
5.	<u>Net Area became Available for Allotment</u>	89,363	21,338	1,10,701
6.	<u>Area Taken Possession of:</u>	Total Surplus area of Old Acts allotted under the provisions of Old Act as well as under the Utilisation Scheme, 1976	Surplus area of new Ceiling Act allotted under the Utilisation Scheme, 1976	Total
	(a) Culturable	89,183	21,338	1,10,521
	(b) Un-culturable	180	-	180
	(c) Total	89,363	21,338	1,10,701

1	2	3	4	5
7.	<u>Total Culturable Surplus Area Distributed:</u>			
	(a) Area	89,183	21,338	1,10,521
	(b) No. of beneficiaries	31,021	6,085	37,106
8.	Out of Sr. No.5 Un-culturable surplus are kept reserved for public purposes	180	-	180 (This information is being verified from the D.C. concerned)
9.	<u>Classification regarding distribution of surplus land:</u>			
A)	<u>SCHEDULED CASTE ALLOTTEES:</u>			
	i) Area	33,273	9,738	43,011
	ii) No. of beneficiaries	11,513	2,851	14,364
B)	<u>SCHEDULED TRIBE ALLOTTEES:</u>			
	i) Area	Nil	Nil	Nil
	ii) No. of beneficiaries	Nil	Nil	Nil
C)	<u>OTHER ALLOTTEES:</u>			
	i) Area	55,910	11,600	67,510
	ii) No. of beneficiaries	19,508	3,234	22,742
10.	<u>Net balance area without any Hurdle, Available for Distribution</u>	Nil	Nil	Nil
11.	<u>Total Physical Possessions Delivered:</u>			
	a) Area	80,798	16,982	97,780
	b) No. of beneficiaries	27,515	4,923	32,438
12.	<u>Classification Regarding Physical Possessions:</u>			
A)	<u>SCHEDULED CASTE ALLOTTEES:</u>			
	i) Area	29,768	7,817	37,585
	ii) No. of beneficiaries	10,171	2,325	12,496

1	2	3	4	5
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B) SCHEDULED TRIBE ALLOTTEES:

i) Area	Nil	Nil	Nil
ii) No. of beneficiaries	Nil	Nil	Nil

C) OTHER ALLOTTEES:

i) Area	51,030	9,165	60,195
ii) No. of beneficiaries	17,344	2,598	19,942

13. Remarks, if any.

The figures regarding No. of returns filed under the revised Ceiling Laws reduced from 23,845 to 23,834 and from 23,888 to 23,877 against Sr.No.1(a) & 1(c) respectively because 11 remanded cases were found wrongly, included by the Special Collector, Haryana, Chandigarh in his earlier reports.

Scheme of Financial Assistance to the Assignees
of Land Declared Surplus as a result of imposition
of ceiling

The scheme of giving financial assistance to the assignees of surplus land which was started in the Revenue Department in 1977 and later transferred to the Special Project Cell at the end of the year 1984-85, envisages assistance to the allottees @ Rs.2500/- per hectare for improving the land and providing inputs. The expenditure is shared by the Central/State Governments on 50:50 basis.

2. Yearwise position of funds/expenditure and achievements made during the year 1985-86 and 1986-87 and 1987-88 upto December, 1987 is given as under:-

Year	Allotment of funds (Rs. in lacs)	Expenditure (Rs. in lacs)	Beneficiaries covered	Area covered (in acres)
1985-86	54.56 (to be shared on 50:50 basis by Central/State Govts.)	5.50	256	734
1986-87	32.56 (-do-)	50.44	2124	6571
1987-88 (upto Dec.1987)	Central Assistance yet to be received for the year 1987-88)	23.37	1040	2901
Total	87.12	79.31	3420	10206

3. Out of unspent balance of Rs. 33.66 lakhs lying with DRDAs as on 1-4-1987, an amount of Rs. 23.37 lakhs has been spent upto December, 1987.

4. There is a provision of Rs. 56.00 lakhs in the State Budget for the year 1987-88. The Government of India has not yet released Central assistance for the year 1987-88.

5. Based on actual survey conducted by DRDAs, we have projected our total balance demand of Rs. 103 lakhs to the Government of India. The Planning Commission/Government of India have agreed to allocate Rs. 20.00 lakhs for the year 1988-89 on matching basis.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE AREA DECLARED SURPLUS
UNDER THE OLD ACTS AS WELL AS UNDER THE NEW
ACT, 1972 AND UTILISATION THEREOF UPTO THE
PERIOD ENDING 30th NOVEMBER, 1987

(in Acres)

Sr. No.	Name of District	Area declared surplus			Area came under exemption due to inheritance and purchase by tenants etc.		
		Under Old Acts (1953 & 1955)	Under New Act (1972)	Total	Under Old Acts	Under New Act	Total
1	2	3(a)	3(b)	3(c)	4(a)	4(b)	4(c)
1.	Ambala	9,223	1,477	10,700	1,360	302	1,662
2.	Kurukshetra	28,456	2,381	30,837	21,944	1,125	23,069
3.	Karnal	42,447	1,415	43,862	20,525	107	20,632
4.	Sonepat	11,385	565	11,950	7,849	-	7,849
5.	Faridabad	9,119	89	9,208	6,223	41	6,264
6.	Gurgaon	6,352	482	6,834	1,658	-	1,658
7.	Narnaul	4,051	725	4,776	2,373	45	2,418
8.	Rohtak	15,687	962	16,649	10,063	296	10,359
9.	Bhiwani	26,956	2,702	29,658	25,973	60	26,033
10.	Jind	10,614	3,543	14,157	3,302	170	3,472
11.	Hissar	72,854	8,227	81,081	67,131	3,157	70,288
12.	Sirsa	1,14,590	9,130	1,23,720	89,684	805	90,489
Total		3,51,734	31,698	3,83,432	2,58,085	6,108	2,64,193

STATEMENT SHOWING THE ALLOTMENT OF SURPLUS LAND DISTRICT BHIWANI

Total land acquired in the District under Ceiling Law and Bhudan Movement	The quality of Land Acquired	Number of beneficiaries with quantity and amount of land assigned	Criteria for distributing the land among the beneficiaries	Mutation completed	Mutation under Process	Facilities provided to assignees of land inform of agricultural appliances & other helps	Whether the assignees are in actual possession of land	Whether cases of dispossession have been notified. If yes, mention the circumstances
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
29658 acre	Cultivated	763 beneficiaries 3133 Acre	5 Acre (C) category land	628	135		493 beneficiaries	143 beneficiaries The land-owners have forceably taken possession

Sd/-

For Deputy Commissioner
Bhiwani

ACTION PLAN
1986-87
DISTRICT MOHINDERGARH

FOR
PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
TO THE NEW ASSIGNEES OF LAND
DECLARED SURPLUS UNDER THE
HARYANA CEILING ON LAND
HOLDING SCHEME

DISTRICT RURAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
DISTRICT MOHINDERGARH
AT NARNAUL

CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEME OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
TO ALLOTEES OF CEILING SURPLUS LAND

The assignees of the ceiling surplus land mostly come from landless agricultural labourers comprising of mainly schedule caste and backward classes. These belong to lowest strata of society in the income group and are not in a position to provide, on their own, the initial requirement of farming. They find it difficult to do any useful cultivation without some financial or technical support.

The quality of land distributed to these persons is also of the poorest type of land and area is also very small. Therefore, most of the area distributed under the scheme needs the development like land levelling, contour bunding and other soil conservation measures.

Despite the allotment of land, these allottees, generally being very poor, do not have any asset base at all to overcome the initial difficulties. It is also proposed to supply inputs in the form of improved seeds fertilizers insecticides etc., small farming implements and equipments.

Now the State Govt. has decided to implement this scheme through special project cell, Haryana and District Rural Development Agency of the district concerned. The Revenue Department would provide the budget and the scheme would be executed by the Agriculture Department.

Salient features of the scheme are as under:

- (1) The maximum ceiling of assistance would be Rs.2500/- per hect.
- (2) The funds provided under this scheme will be shared by the Central Govt. and State Govt. equally on 50:50 basis.
- (3) The Assistance will be given to whom the surplus land have been allotted by the Revenue Deptt. as a result of imposition of ceiling after 1-1-1975.

- (4) The scale of assistance will be Rs. 2500/- per hectare for purposes of inputs and land levelling works subject to the maximum assistance of Rs. 8000/- exclusive of subsidy availed by the beneficiary under various programmes of rural development. The purchase and distribution of inputs will be made by the DRDA, Narnaul with consultation of the Agency and the distribution of the inputs will be made in the presence of APO of this agency. The development work of the land will be done by the HLRDC according to the estimate of distribution of inputs and land development work, the bill will be submitted after verification by the DDA Narnaul and ASCO concerned respectively to this Agency for payment.

Out of a total No. _____ allottees _____ allottees has already been adopted in year 1985-86 and 1986-87 under this scheme. _____ allottees their area 42 hect. are proposed under this scheme for the year 1986-87.

The component of this scheme are as under:-

- (I) Land levelling: It is proposed to carry out land Land covering _____ Nos of persons. Total cost of this component is estimated Rs. 0.84 lacs at @ Rs.2000/- per hect.
- (II) Supply of inputs: An outlay of Rs. 0.16 lacs is proposed for supply of inputs like improved seeds, farm yard manure fertilizer insecticides.

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1- Annexure-I | Summary of the scheme |
| 2- Annexure-II | Unit cost of the various scheme per hect. |
| 3- Annexure-III | List of the allottees. |

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Cost of various inputs per hectare

Plan protection Irrigation

Name of crop	Seed rate Qtl. in kg.	FYM in qtl Amt.	Fertilizer				Total Average
			Nitrogenous Qtl. Amt.	Phosphatic Qtl. Amt.	Potash Qtl. Amt.	Zinc Qtl. Amt.	
1. Bajra	4.00	29.00	28.00	71.00	25.00	117/ 3.00 16/	1.50 1 57.00 291.50
2. Guar	16.00	52.00	-	-	-	-	1 42.00 94.00

Name of District	Unspent balance of funds as on 1-4-86	Revised funds if any	Additional funds allocated during 86-87	Total amount available (Col.3+4)	Action plan already approved by Government (Rs.)	Balance amount for which action plan is now being sent (Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Mohinder Garh	1.50	-	1.00	2.50	2.00	1.00
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Annexure-B

Name of District	Name of the Schemes	Schme-wise amount of outlay proposed in action plan	Beneficiaries to be covered		Area to be covered in acres pertaining to:	
			SC	Non-SC	SC	Non-SC
				Total		Total
Mohinder Garh	Financial Assistance to the assignees of surplus land	Land levelling 0.84 X inputs 0.16 X 1.00	-	29	-	105

Note:1	Net beneficiaries to be covered			Note:2 Net area to be covered in acres pertaining to:		
	SC	Non-SC	Total	SC	Non-SC	Total
	-	29	29	-	105	105

List of Allotee

Sr. No.	Name of farmers/ father's Names	Village	No. of Village in which land alloted	Area K.M.
	S/Shri			
1.	Jagan s/o Mangal	Anandpur	Ram Singhpura	25.14
2.	Suraj s/o Jairam	"	"	22.18
3.	Bihari s/o Asha Ram	Dhani Suthana	Dhani Suthana	39.10
4.	Trilok s/o Parbhu	"	"	35.17
5.	Ram Dayal s/o Moji	"	"	35.18
6.	Rohtash s/o Laxmi	"	"	35.19
7.	Sher Singh s/o Makhan	"	"	35.07
8.	Jawahara s/o Badan	Tankri	Jaisinghpur Khera	11.07
9.	Ram Singh s/o Ramrikh	Mohanpur	"	30.00
10.	Sukhdev s/o Jokhi	Kesupur	"	17.07
11.	Pyare Lal s/o Ramchander	Palawas	Somakhara	19.06
12.	Data Ram s/o Shri Chand Pehlad S/O Mangal	Musepur	Jetusana	35.15
13.	Surta, Harpal s/o Ganga Ram	Asia ki Gorawas	Basota	30.00
14.	Tillu s/o Devi Sahay	Chillar	"	25.10
15.	Simbhu, Amar Singh s/o Mohan Singh	Kurawata Manakpur	Baliar Khurd	24.04
16.	Prabhu, Chanderbhan, Herdev s/o Bhagwari Singh	"	"	15.19
17.	Amilal S/O Badlu	NR.F. Baas	N.R.F. Bass	39.08
18.	Inderaj s/o Bheru	"	"	23.13
19.	Kehar Singh s/o Roop Ram	"	"	25.13
20.	Ram Karan s/o Lal Ji	Khaleta	Khaleta	27.16
21.	Jhamman Banwari s/o Richpal	Harjipur	Harjipur	16.00
22.	Jaswant s/o Hira Singh	Khol	Khol	39.11
23.	Jagram s/o Mangtu	Harjipur	Harjipur	39.09
24.	Pyare Lal s/o Kaluram	"	"	39.10
25.	Sajjan Singh s/o Manohar	"	"	39.10
26.	Ramchander s/o Layal Ram	"	"	17.04
27.	Harikishan s/o Sanwal	"	"	22.04
28.	Nanri W/O Shanker	"	"	39.10
29.	Ramchander s/o Kalu Ram	"	"	39.10

ACTION PLAN
1987-88
DISTRICT MOHINDERGARH

FOR
PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
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DISTRICT RURAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
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The assignees of the ceiling surplus land mostly come from landless agricultural labourers comprising of mainly schedule caste and backward classes. These belong to lowest strata of society in the income group and are not in a position to provide, on their own, the initial requirement of farming. They find it difficult to do any useful cultivation without some financial or technical support.

The quality of land distributed to these persons is also of the poorest type of land and area is also very small. Therefore, most of the area distributed under the scheme needs the development like land levelling, contour bunding and other soil conservation measures.

Despite the allotment of land, these allottees, generally being very poor, do not have any assets base at all to overcome the initial difficulties. It is also proposed to supply inputs in the form of improved seeds fertilizers insecticides etc., small farming implements and equipments.

Now the State Government has decided to implement this scheme through special project cell, Haryana and District Rural Development Agency of the district concerned. The Revenue Department would provide the budget and the scheme would be executed by the Agriculture Department.

Salient features of the scheme are as under:-

- (1) The maximum ceiling of assistance would be Rs. 2500/- per hect.
- (2) The funds provided under this scheme will be shared by the Central Govt. and State Govt. equally on 50:50 basis.
- (3) The Assistance will be given to whom the surplus land have been allotted by the Revenue Deptt. as a result of imposition of ceiling after 1-1-1975.

- (4) The scale of assistance will be Rs. 2500/- per hectare for purposes of inputs and land levelling works subject to the maximum assistance of Rs. 8000/- exclusive of subsidy availed by the beneficiary under various programmes of rural development. The purchase and distribution of inputs will be made by the NRDA, Narnaul with consultation of the Agency and the distribution of the inputs will be made in the presence of AFO of this Agency. The development work of the land will be done by the HLRDC according to the estimate of distribution of inputs and land development work, the bill will be submitted after verification by the DDA Narnaul and ASCO concerned respectively to this Agency for payment.

74 Nos out of 560 Nos allottees have already been adopted in the year 1985-86. 29 Nos of allottees having an area of 42 hect. are proposed in the scheme in the year 1985-86, 23 Nos having an area of 41 hect. will be covered in the year 1987-88.

- (I) Land levelling: It is proposed to carry out land covering Nos of persons. Total cost of this component is estimated Rs. 0.82 lacs at @ Rs.2000/- per hect.
- (II.) Supply of inputs: An outlay of Rs. 0.18 lacs is proposed for supply of inputs like improved seeds, farm yard manure fertilizer insecticides.

- 1- Annexure-I : Summary of the Scheme.
- 2- Annexure-II : Unit cost of the various scheme per hect.
- 3- Annexure-III : List of the allottees.

Cost of various inputs per hectare Plan protection Irrigation

Name of crop	Seed rate	Qt1.	Amt.	in qt1	Amt.	Fertilizer				Zinc Qt1	Amt.	Nos	Amt.	Total Average
						Nitrogenous Qt1	Phoshatic Amt	Potash Qt1	Amt					
1. Bajra	4.00	29.00	28.00	71.00	25.00	117/	3.00	16/	-	-	-	1.50	1	57.00 291.50
2. Guar	16.00	52.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	42.00	94.00

Annexure-A

Statement showing the targets fixed under the Scheme for the Financial Assistance to the Assignees of surplus land for the year 1987-88.

Name of District	Beneficiaries to covered during 1987-88			Area to be covered during 1987-88 (in acres)			Assistance to be given during 1987-88 (Rs. in lakhs)		
	SC	Non-SC	Total	SC	Non-SC	Total	SC	Non-SC	Total
Mohinder Garh	-	23	23	-	101.75	101.75	-	1.00	1.00

Annexure-B

Statement showing the targets achieved under the scheme for the Financial Assistance to the Assignees of surplus land for the year 1986-87 of the plan 1985-86

Beneficiaries covered during 1986-87	Area covered during 1986-87 (in Acres)			Assistance given during 1986-87 (Rs. in lakhs)		
	SC	Non-SC	Total	SC	Non-SC	Total
	-	74	74	-	1.66	1.66

Annexure-B

Name of District	Name of the Schemes	Scheme-wise amount of outlay proposed in action plan	<u>Beneficiaries to covered</u>		<u>Area to be covered in acre pertaining to</u>	
			SC	Non-SC	SC	Non-SC
			Total		Total	

Mohinder Garh	Financial Assistance to the assignees of surplus land	Land levelling	0.82	1.00	-	101.75
		Inputs	0.18			

Note-1	<u>Net beneficiaries to be covered</u>		Note-2		<u>Net area to be covered in acres pertaining</u>	
	SC	Non-SC	SC	Non-SC	Total	Total
	-	23	-	101.75	101.75	

Sr. No.	Name & Father's Name	Village	Village land in which allotted	Area K.M.
S/Shri				
1.	Jeevan S/O Dev Karan	Amandpur	Ram Singh Pura	08.00
2.	Pribhu S/O Asha Ram	Dhani Suthana	Dhani Suthana	39.17
3.	Umrao S/O Ram Singh/Kanhia Ram	-do-	-do-	56.02
4.	Makhan S/O Asha Ram	-do-	-do-	39.11
5.	Danarsh S/O Ramesh Chand	-do-	-do-	40.06
6.	Shiv Charan S/O Bholu	Tankri	Jaisinghpur Khera	09.07
7.	Sheetaj S/O Umda	Fawti	-do-	04.18
8.	Chandgi, Natha, Shrichand S/O Hari Singh	Barili Kalan	Basota	46.00
9.	Pahlad S/O Sampat	Ruthal	-do-	30.00
10.	Yad Ram S/O Badlu	Asiaki Gorawas	-do-	54.11
11.	Sher Singh S/O Jhabar	Khalipur Kurawara	Nurpur	57.13
12.	Simbhu, Amarsingh S/O Mohan Lal	Mankpur	-do-	60.07
13.	Chhang, Kirshan, Bhup Singh S/O Bhai Ram	Chillar	Sadipur	63.16
14.	Kishan Lal S/O Dev Dutt	Khalipur	Nurpur	36.09
15.	Jaswant S/O Hira	Khol	Khol	39.16
16.	Deuilal S/O Khem Ram	-do-	-do-	27.11
17.	Sajjan S/O Manoharlal	Hazipur	Hazipur	39.10
18.	Basanti S/O Hari Singh	-do-	-do-	39.10
19.	Ram Chander S/O Leyak Ram	-do-	-do-	28.07
20.	Hari Kishan S/O Sanwal	-do-	-do-	27.04
21.	Ghisa S/O Bal Mukand	-do-	-do-	17.00
22.	Nandi W/O Shankar	-do-	-do-	22.10
23.	Pyare Lal S/O Ganga Dutt	-do-	-do-	39.10

INFORMATION ON LAND REFORMS: KARNATAKA

1. Total Land acquired in the State District-wise.
2. Land acquired under Land Reforms Act
 - (a) Agricultural land.

The total agricultural land acquired in the state are as follows:-

Sl. No.	District	Agricultural land dermined as surplus
<u>I. Bangalore Division</u>		<u>Acres</u>
1.	Bangalore	650
2.	Bangalore(Rural)	
3.	Chitradurga	7,811
4.	Kolar	1,498
5.	Shimoga	5,079
6.	Tumkur	3,371
Total		18,409
<u>II. Belgaum Division</u>		
7.	Belgaum	28,864
8.	Bijapur	52,395
9.	Dharwad	22,726
10.	U.Kannada	370
Total		1,04,355
<u>III. Gulbarga Division</u>		
11.	Bellary	24,699
12.	Bidar	7,441
13.	Gulbarga	45,993
14.	Raichur	86,420
Total		1,64,553

Sl. No.	District	Agricultural land determined as surplus
<u>IV. Mysore Dun</u>		
15.	Chickmagalur	1,023
16.	Kodagu	482
17.	Hassan	1,234
18.	Mandya	883
19.	Mysore	1,653
20.	Dakshina Kannada	3,248
Total		8,523
Grand Total: 1+II+III+IV		2,95,840

3. Guidelines for allotment of land.

Surplus land vesting in the State Government under section 77 of KLR Act 1961, land directed to be disposed under sub-section (3) of Section 45, Section 58, Section 60, land vesting in the State Government under section 60, land vesting in the State Government under section 79A, Section 79B, or any other provision of this Act, may subject to reservation of 50% thereof to grant to persons belonging to SC and STs and subject to such restrictions and conditions as may be prescribed in this behalf, be granted by the DC or any other Officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf to the following persons to the extent in the manner as may be prescribed.

- i) Dispossessed tenants who are not registered as occupants;
- ii) Displaced tenants having no land;
- iii) Landless agricultural labourers;
- iv) Landless persons and ex-military personnel whose gross annual income does not exceed rupees two thousand;
- v) Released bonded labourers;
- vi) Other persons residing in villages in the same Panchayat and whose gross annual income does not exceed Rs. 2,000/-.

4. Implementation Progress.

The Karnataka land reforms act 1961 came into force from 2-10-1965. The act was amended based on the National guidelines which came into effect from 1-3-1974. The aim and object of the act is:-

- i) Confirmation of owner-ship rights on tenants.
- ii) Determination and distribution of surplus land.

The provisions of the Act are being implemented vigorously all over the State. Each Taluk has a land Tribunal consisting of one Chairman of the rank of KAS Class I Jr. Scale Officer and Four Non-official members appointed by Government. The tribunal is empowered to determine the tenancy of the land, occupation of homestead dwellers and determination of surplus land over and above the ceiling prescribed under section 63 of KLR Act 1961. In view of the quick disposal of LR cases pending at High Court and to ease tenants, District and Additional Land Reforms Appellate Authorities have been constituted.

5. Whether L.R. has been integrated with IRD Programme. Yes.

6. KLR Act 1961 and Rules 1974.

Since the priced publication, copies are not available in the section.

7. Recent Amendment in the Act

To amend section 2, 5, (2)(3), Sub-Section (1) a, b, c, d(4), Section 15(2)(3)(4)(5)(6), Section 51(2)(i), Section 61, 63(1)(A), Section 63, Section 79(B)(1) and insertion of new section 42-A, Sub-section 48(B), Sub-Section 67(1)(d), 77(4), Sub-Section 5 to Section 79(b) are under consideration.

TUMKUR DISTRICT

STATISTICAL INFORMATION BOOKLET TO THE TEAM
VISITING THE DISTRICT ON 24TH JULY 1987 TO
STUDY THE EVOLUTION OF ECONOMIC CONDITIONS
OF SURPLUS LAND GUARANTEES UNDER LAND REFORMS
ACT (KARNATAKA ACT)

SEASONEL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT IN GENERAL

During the last four years Rainfall in the district is far below the average Rainfall and the operation of agricultural activities were almost considerably effected in the district.

For the current year the monsoon (Rainfall) up to date is not up to the expected average and normal as compared to previous years and the agricultural operations are in stillness.

RAINFALL STATISTICS AS ON 20TH OF JULY 1987

Sl. No.	Name of the Taluk	Normal rainfall during the month	Total actual rainfall as on 20th July 1987
1.	Tumkur	97.3	61.4
2.	Guobbi	86.6	1.5
3.	Kunigal	69.6	-
4.	Tiptur	49.3	28.5
5.	Turuvekere	56.6	-
6.	CN Halli	67.3	-
7.	Madhugiri	75.4	4.0
8.	Koratagere	74.0	0.9
9.	Sira	46.5	9.4
10.	Pavagada	51.6	26.7
			132.4

sd/-
For Deputy Commissioner
Tumkur District

Particulars of surplus land grantees under Land Reforms Act as on 30-6-1987 - Tumkur District

Sl. No.	Name of the Taluk	Total surplus land determined	Lords No.	Extent.	Surplus land distributed	Financial Assistance provided to surplus land grantees.			
						1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
						Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount
									1986-87
									Re- marks
1)	Tumkur	2	94-13	20	59-06	-	-	-	-
2)	Tiptur	2	14-39	-	-	-	-	-	-
3)	C.N.Halli	2	17-05	-	-	-	-	-	-
4)	Sira	22	542-25	116	261-21	-	27000-00	72500-00	-
5)	Koratagere	3	50-00	8	21-00	-	4000-00	-	-
6)	Pavagada	72	2473-00	426	694-00	18664-00	-	61000-00	132641-00
									50905-00
Total:		103	3192-02		1035-27	18664-00	4000-00	88000-00	205141-00
									50905-00

Note: During the year 1984-85 73 beneficiaries of Pavagada and Sira got the benefit
 1985-86 170
 1986-87 35

1982-83	1983-84
No. of beneficiaries in Pavagada taluk	No. of beneficiaries in Koratagere taluk

31

8

Sd/-
 For Deputy Commissioner,
 Tumkur District

Appendix-XI

Statement showing the progress achieved in Disposal of applications U/s 79 A&B of L.R.F.
Act from the inception to the end of June, 1987 - Mysore District

.....

Sl. No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Name of the taluk	Mysore	T.Nara-sipur	Kollegal	Nanjangud	Chamara-janagar	Gundlu-pet	Yelandur	Hunsur	K.R. Nagar	Peri-yapa-tna	H.D. Kote
<u>Applications received</u>											
No.	14	-	1	7	-	1	-	3	1	8	1
Extent.	501-00	-	238-05	48-15	-	108-29	-	209-20	16-09	1012-03	15-00
<u>Applications disposed</u>											
No.	12	-	1	7	-	1	-	3	-	8	1
Extent.	298-07	-	238-05	48-15	-	108-29	-	209-20	-	1012-03	15-00
Balance											
No.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Extent.	202-33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16-09	-	-
<u>Extent vest with Govt. for violation of conditions</u>											
No.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	-
Entent.	-	-	-	-	-	108-29	-	-	-	961-33	-
<u>No. of cases registered in High Court</u>											
No.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Entent.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	903-17	-

Statement showing the progress achieved in disposal of declaration u/s 66 of the Land Reforms Act 1961 from the inception to end of June, 1987, Mysore District
.....

Sl. No.	Taluk	Declarations received		Declarations disposed		Surplus land determined		Total		Balance	
		No.	Extent.	No.	Extent.	No.	Extent.	No.	Extent.	No.	Extent.
1	2	3a	3b	4a	4b	5a	5b	6a	6b	7a	7b
1.	Mysore	308	3731-00	303	3686-25	5	44-15	308	3731-00	-	-
2.	T.Narasipur	735	15731-22	733	15655-19	2	76-03	735	15731-22	-	-
3.	Kollegal	177	22072-02	176	22044-09	1	27-33	177	22072-02	-	-
4.	Nanjangud	631	11980-04	624	11434-13	5	370-09	629	11804-22	2	175-22
5.	Chamarajanagar	144	8701-00	141	8146-13	2	36-28	143	8183-01	1	517-39
6.	Gundlupet	340	22182-00	340	22182-00	2	340-30	340	22182-00	-	-
7.	Yelandur	62	1790-32	51	1350-24	-	-	51	1350-24	11	440-08
8.	Hunsur	276	11181-02	261	10641-28	15	539-14	276	11181-02	-	-
9.	K.R.Nagar	598	9947-13	594	9928-17	2	18-36	596	9947-13	-	-
10.	Periyapatna	152	9607-23	139	9168-04	13	439-19	152	9607-23	-	-
11.	H.D.Kote	236	8395-00	235	8299-00	1	96-00	236	8395-00	-	-
Total:		3657	125319-18	3596	122532-22	47	1989-27	3643	124185-29	14	1133-29

Note: An extent of 108-89 acres of land has been taken over possession to Government for violation of section 79A of LRF Act.

1989-27

108-89

2098-16

Statement showing the progress achieved in disposal of declaration u/s 66 of the Land Reforms Act 1961 from the inception to end of June, 1987, Mysore District

Sl. No.	Taluk	Declarations disposed									
		Declarations received		Rejected		Surplus land determined		Total		Balance	
		No.	Extent.	No.	Extent.	No.	Extent.	No.	Extent.	No.	Extent.
1	2	3a	3b	4a	4b	5a	5b	6a	6b	7a	7b
1.	Mysore	308	3731-00	303	3686-25	5	44-15	308	3731-00	-	-
2.	T.Narasipur	735	15731-22	733	15655-19	2	76-03	735	15731-22	-	-
3.	Kollegal	177	22072-02	176	22044-09	1	27-33	177	22072-02	-	-
4.	Nanjangud	631	11980-04	624	11434-13	5	370-09	629	11804-22	2	175-22
5.	Chamarajanagar	144	8701-00	141	8146-13	2	36-28	143	8183-01	1	517-39
6.	Gundlupet	340	22182-00	340	22182-00	2	340-30	340	22182-00	-	-
7.	Yelandur	62	1790-32	51	1350-24	-	-	51	1350-24	11	440-08
8.	Hunsur	276	11181-02	261	10641-28	15	539-14	276	11181-02	-	-
9.	K.R.Nagar	598	9947-13	594	9928-17	2	18-36	596	9947-13	-	-
10.	Periyapatna	152	9607-23	139	9168-04	13	439-19	152	9607-23	-	-
11.	H.D.Kote	236	8395-00	235	8299-00	1	96-00	236	8395-00	-	-
Total:		3657	125319-18	3596	122532-22	47	1989-27	3643	124185-29	14	1133-29

Note: An extent of 108-89 acres of land has been taken over possession to Government for violation of section 79A of LRF Act.

1989-27

108-89

2098-16

Statement showing the progress achieved in the distribution of surplus land from the inception up to end of June, 1987 - Mysore District

Sl. No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Name of the taluk	Mysore	T.Nara-sipur	Kollegal	Nanjangud	Chamara-janagar	Gundlu-pet	Yelan-dur	Hunsur	K.R. Nagar	Periya-patna	H.D. Kote
Extent determined as surplus	44-15	70-03	27-33	370-09	36-28	449-19	-	539-14	18-36	439-19	96-00
Extent covered by orders before taking possession	21-21	-	-	43-08	-	-	-	335-09	18-36	336-28	96-00
Extent taken possession	23-34	76-03	27-33	327-01	36-28	449-19	-	204-05	-	102-31	-
Extent yet to be taken possession	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Extent covered by stay orders after taking possession	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Extent available for distribution	22-34	76-03	27-33	327-01	36-28	449-19	-	204-05	-	102-31	-
Surplus land distributed											
No.	12	20	7	98	10	2	-	16	-	24	-
Extent.	14-27	52-03	17-21	246-01	19-36	4-10	-	43-17	-	60-15	-

Sl. No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<u>S.T.</u>											
No.	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	56	-	5	-
Extent.	-	-	-	16-00	-	-	-	121-34	-	12-38	-
<u>Others</u>											
No.	4	11	4	20	9	-	-	15	-	13	-
Extent.	8-07	24-00	10-12	65-00	16-32	-	-	38-34	-	29-18	-
<u>TOTAL</u>											
No.	16	31	11	122	19	2	-	87	-	42	-
Extent.	23-34	76-03	27-33	327-01	36-28	4-10	-	204-05	-	102-31	-
Extent yet to be distributed	-	-	-	-	-	445-09 (to be distributed to the bonded labourers of the area)	-	-	-	-	-

District	Area of Agricultural land taken possession upto 31-12-86		Total	Distribution of vested agricultural plan upto 31-12-86		Total
	E.A.Act	L.R.Act		E.A.Act	L.R.Act	
24-Parganas (S)	67,778.50	10,284.69	78,063.19	47,249.90	6,219.09	53,468.99
24-Parganas (N)	21,724.49	2,094.03	23,818.52	14,736.68	1,094.21	15,830.89
Howrah	4,121.50	513.11	4,634.61	2,080.91	209.35	2,890.26
Nadia	18,690.35	3,807.49	22,497.84	12,949.31	1,590.90	14,540.21
Murshidabad	41,082.90	6,673.52	47,756.42	28,911.54	3,706.05	32,617.59
Burdwan	48,976.15	17,749.38	66,725.53	36,712.68	11,579.36	48,292.04
Birbhum	30,847.37	10,021.54	40,868.91	20,684.57	6,714.58	27,399.15
Bankura	45,895.50	10,537.50	56,433.00	37,129.20	7,867.31	44,996.51
Midnapore	2,41,075.61	39,020.82	2,80,096.43	1,68,073.02	24,273.74	1,92,346.76
Hooghly	11,448.05	3,070.10	14,518.15	8,880.91	1,528.13	10,409.04
Purulia	78,409.95	3,141.63	81,551.58	50,920.83	2,100.10	53,021.93
Malda	75,123.76	9,033.39	84,157.15	56,624.06	5,117.21	61,741.27
W. Dinajpur	1,01,486.35	12,078.53	1,13,564.88	92,740.60	9,154.69	1,01,895.29
Cooch Behar	47,964.21	5,410.80	53,375.01	44,786.73	4,983.90	49,770.63
Jalpaiguri	1,00,339.60	7,976.28	1,08,315.88	93,068.42	5,963.18	99,031.60
Darjeeling	30,849.01	2,358.40	33,207.41	24,059.82	879.66	24,939.48
Total:	9,65,813.30	1,43,771.21	11,09,584.51	7,40,209.18	92,981.46	8,33,190.64

NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES WHO RECEIVED VESTED AGRICULTURAL LAND UP TO 31-12-1986

District	Total number of beneficiaries		No. of Schedule Caste		No. of Scheduled Tribe				
	EA Act	LR Act	Total	EA Act	LR Act	Total			
	EA Act	LR Act	Total	EA Act	LR Act	Total			
24-Parganas (S)	96,930	11,049	1,07,979	39,952	4,470	44,422	9,877	1,340	11,217
24-Paraganas (S)	52,766	4,285	57,051	17,401	1,722	19,123	10,067	755	10,822
Howrah	14,973	910	15,883	3,141	296	3,437	105	-	105
Nadia	49,267	6,810	56,077	15,107	2,600	17,707	3,455	622	4,077
Murshidabad	87,735	14,236	1,01,971	16,401	3,410	19,811	4,792	914	5,706
Burdwan	82,379	45,376	1,27,755	35,223	23,179	58,402	16,566	7,781	24,347
Birbhum	52,343	16,714	69,057	29,900	8,750	38,650	9,821	3,490	13,311
Bankura	59,987	25,716	85,703	32,098	15,854	47,952	12,020	4,996	17,016
Midnapore	3,84,113	86,553	4,70,666	1,08,357	24,485	1,32,842	85,811	20,391	1,06,202
Hooghly	38,081	9,251	47,332	15,920	4,740	20,660	6,340	2,140	8,480
Purulia	62,789	3,343	66,131	18,576	1,289	19,865	21,896	1,128	23,024
Malda	1,01,060	12,777	1,13,837	27,245	3,833	31,083	19,160	2,696	21,856
W. Dinajpur	1,54,463	26,745	1,81,208	54,311	10,752	65,063	39,969	7,847	47,816
Cooch Behar	79,313	9,785	89,098	54,856	7,395	62,251	1,772	554	2,326
Jalpaiguri	81,381	6,732	88,113	40,976	3,590	44,566	19,261	2,068	21,329
Darjeeling	31,888	1,992	33,880	11,013	1,010	12,023	9,125	641	9,766
Total:-	14,29,467	2,82,274	17,11,741	5,20,477	1,17,380	6,37,857	2,70,037	57,363	3,27,400

District	Others			Institution and Societies		
	E.A.Act	L.R.Act	Total	E.A.Act	L.R.Act	Total
24-Parganas(S)	47,064	5,227	52,291	37	12	49
24-Parganas(N)	25,288	1,808	27,096	10	-	10
Howrah	11,710	614	12,324	17	-	17
Nadia	30,705	3,588	34,293	-	-	-
Murshidabad	66,533	9,910	76,443	9	2	11
Burdwan	30,575	14,413	44,988	15	3	18
Birbhum	12,622	4,474	17,096	-	-	-
Bankura	15,869	4,866	20,735	-	-	-
Midnapore	1,89,925	41,677	2,31,602	20	-	20
Hooghly	15,811	2,370	18,181	10	1	11
Purulia	22,313	925	23,238	3	1	4
Malda	54,655	6,243	60,898	-	-	-
W.Dinajpur	60,183	8,146	68,329	-	-	-
Cooch Behar	22,685	1,836	24,521	-	-	-
Jalpaiguri	21,137	1,069	22,206	12	-	12
Darjeeling	11,750	341	12,091	-	-	-
Total:	6,38,825	1,07,507	7,46,332	133	19	152

PROGRESS OF SETTLEMENT WORK UPTO 31-12-1986

(Work in number of Mouzas)

	Khanapuri-cum-Bujha- rat		Attestation		Draft publication	
	Progress	Pending	Progress	Pending	Progress	Pending
24-Parganas(S)	2,148	144	1,264	1,064	995	1,333
24-Parganas(N)	1,748	55	1,346	457	1,104	699
Howrah	820	16	693	143	677	159
Nadia	1,399	7	1,324	82	1,002	404
Murshidabad	2,246	43	1,938	351	1,418	871
Burdwan	2,568	258	2,384	442	1,773	1,053
Birbhum	2,482	7	2,329	160	1,908	581
Bankura	3,810	37	3,484	363	2,524	1,323
Midnapore	11,954	84	10,298	1,704	6,481	5,521
Hooghly	1,992	7	1,880	119	1,765	234
Malda	1,769	45	1,698	116	1,497	317
West Dinajpur	2,390	12	2,340	62	1,963	439
Cooch Behar	1,032	133	931	234	845	320
Jalpaiguri	477	116	423	170	357	236
Darjeeling	449	31	405	75	330	150
Purulia	232	2,468	126	2,574	38	2,662
Islampur	248	531	94	685	26	753
Total:	37,800	3,958	32,957	8,801	24,703	17,055

Progress of Implementation of the West Bengal
Acquisition of Homestead Land for Agricultural
Labourers, Artisans and Fishermen Act, 1975
upto 31-12-1986.

District	No. of bene- ficiaries	Scheduled Caste	Scheduled Tribe
1. 24-Parganas(S)	9,737	3,926	479
2. 24-Parganas(N)	8,986	3,545	1,622
3. Howrah	1,479	473	104
4. Nadia	10,180	2,679	709
5. Murshidabad	10,875	2,859	734
6. Burdwan	46,755	23,346	13,166
7. Birbhum	13,771	6,425	2,759
8. Bankura	16,909	10,868	1,997
9. Midnapore	29,993	8,197	6,965
10. Hooghly	20,572	9,549	5,319
11. Malda	14,123	3,322	2,795
12. West Dinajpur	15,969	6,811	3,682
13. Cooch Behar	8,867	5,540	101
14. Jalpaiguri	8,709	3,989	1,945
15. Darjeeling	3,635	934	769
16. Purulia	9	-	6
Total:	2,20,563	92,463	43,152

RECORDING OF BARGADARS UPTO 31-12-86
(OPERATION BARGA)

<u>District</u>	<u>No. of Bargadars recorded</u>
1. 24-Parganas(S)	1,08,855
2. 24-Parganas(N)	59,469
3. Howrah	38,722
4. Nadia	54,046
5. Murshidabad	73,268
6. Burdwan	1,11,094
7. Bankura	1,01,316
8. Birbhum	97,583
9. Midnapore	2,99,127
10. Hooghly	94,929
11. Malda	75,804
12. West Dinajpur	96,745
13. Cooch Behar	75,970
14. Jalpaiguri	55,950
15. Darjeeling	12,879
16. Purulia	5,923
Total:	<u>13,61,680</u>

SECONDARY INFORMATION REGARDING VESTING
AND RAIYATI SETTLEMENT OF CEILING SURPLUS
LAND IN THE DISTRICT OF NADIA, WEST BENGAL

<u>Query</u>	<u>Answer</u>
1. Total land acquired in the district under Ceiling Law and Bhoodan Movement.	a) Under Ceiling Law: 23,276 acres.. b) Under Bhoodan Movement: : Nil.
2. Quality of land acquired.	Since it has not been elaborated what is specifically meant by quality of land, it is presumed that it refers to proportion of irrigated area in the vested land. If that be so, about 15% of the vested land falls within the command area of and Government run irrigation source.
3. No. of assigness with area of plot assigned to them.	a) No. of assignees: 56,607; b) Area of land assigned to them : 14,613 acres.
4. Whether the land is cultivable?	Yes, of course.
5. Criteria for distributing the land among the target-group.	Ceiling surplus land is settled with the eligible persons u/s 49(1) of West Bengal Land Reforms Act, 1955 subject to the following conditions of eligibility. The prospective beneficiary - i) should be a resident of the locality where the land is situated; ii) should be a landless person or should not own more than 0.4047 hectare of land in aggregate together with his family-members. In the case of a 'bargadar' $\frac{1}{2}$ of the 'barga' land cultivated by him should be taken into account to compute his total land;

- iii) should be such a person who, in the case of homestead land, intends to construct a dwelling house thereon and does not have any homestead of his own;
- iv) should be such a person, who intends to bring the land, in case of agricultural land, under his personal cultivation.

No settlement of land is made with any person or with a member of any family of any such person, who is engaged or employed in any business, trade, undertaking, manufacture, calling service or industrial occupation. However, this condition does not apply to an agricultural labourer, artisan or fisherman.

- 6. Mutation completed. In approximately 14000 cases.
- 7. Mutation under process. The rest 42,000 cases (approx.) are under process.
- 8. Facilities provided to assigness of land in form of Agricultural appliances and other helps. No specific report is available in this respect at present; but it is a fact that the assignees of ceiling surplus land - like other categories of beneficiaries, viz., small/marginal farmers, 'bargadars' etc. are covered under different Government Schemes. These Schemes/Programmes include I.R.D.P., Kharif and Rabi Lending Programme, Agricultural Input Loan, Distribution of Minikits of different crops etc.
- 9. Whether assigness are in actual possession of land. Yes, in almost all cases except in a small number of instances where physical possession could not be given at the time of 'raiya' settlement. But such cases are being taken up from time to time and the assignees are put into physical possession with the help of the Police, if necessary.

10. Whether cases of dispossession have been noticed. If yes, mention the circumstances.

Such cases are almost nonexistent. Only few cases of dispossession have taken place where legal and administrative actions are taken to put the dispossessed assignees back into possession.

sd/-

(A.K. Das)

Additional District Magistrate,
(Land Reforms), Nadia.

SECONDARY INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR THE DISTRICT
OF MURSHIDABAD SHOWN ITEMWISE AS ON 31-3-1987

1. Total land acquired in the District under ceiling laws. : 50,655.78 acres.

2. The quality of land acquired:

(a) Area of Agri. land distributed. : 32,661.84 acres.

(b) Land yet to be distributed. : 1,169.82 acres.

(c) Area of land unsuitable for Agri. land. : 6,671.81 acres.

(d) Area of land involved injunction after taking over possession. : 7,262.00 acres.

(e) Area of land involved injunction before possession. : 2,890.31 acres.

Total: : 50,655.78 acres.

3. No. of Assignees with area of the plot assigned to them.

S.C.	S.T.	Others	Total
19,892	5,755	70,000	95,647

With area distributed. : 32,661.84 acres.

4. Whether the land is cultivable. : Yes.

5. Criteria for distributing the land among the target groups.

Distribution of all vested land is made in accordance with the provision of Section 49 of W.B.L.R. Act, 1955 on the recommendation of Sthayes Samity constituted in each Panchayat Samity. Distribution of land could not be made in some cases mentioned hereunder:-

(a) Area involved : 2,890.31 acres
injunction from
the Hon'ble High
Court before
possession.

(b) Area involved : 7,262.00 acres.
injunction from
the Hon'ble High
Court after taking
over possession but
before distribution.

Total: :10,152.31 acres.

(c) Other reasons.

6. Land yet to be distributed. : 1,169.82 acres.
7. Mutation completed. : 25,375
8. Mutation under process. : 76,915
9. Facilities provided to : 1984-85 - Rs. 3,50,000/-
assignees of land in the form : 1985-86 - Rs. 4,00,000/-
of Agri. appliance. : 1986-87 - Rs. 7,50,000/-
(under centrally sponsored
scheme)

Total: Rs.15,00,000/-

10. Whether the assignees are in : Yes. (Except the land covered by
actual possession of land? injunction are enjoying
possession by the patta
holders).
11. Whether case of dispossession : No such case reported except the
have been noticed, if yes cases of involvement in Civil Suit
mentioned the circumstances. and Civil Rule case.
12. Total Irrigated area. : 2,68,315 hectre. } (Including vested
(Double Crops) : 3,10,400 acres. } land).

Sd/-
District Magistrate,
Murshidabad

SCHEDULE I

Evaluation of Economic Condition
of Assignees of Ceiling Land
(Haryana, Karnataka & West Bengal)

S.N. MISHRA

Sponsored By
Department of Rural Development (LR)
Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India

Centre for Rural Development Administration
Indian Institute of Public Administration
Indraprastha Estate, Ring Road,
New Delhi-110002.

Schedule I
(Beneficiaries)

The Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Rural Development, Government of India has sponsored the study "Evaluation of Economic Condition of Assignees of Ceiling Land" and the study has to be carried out in the States of Haryana, Karnataka and West Bengal with following objectives:-

- i) To examine the criteria of assigning the land to the landless;
- ii) To ascertain whether the assignees cultivate the land or have been forced to dispossess the land;
- iii) If dispossessed, to ascertain whether it was a result of force or economic necessities;
- iv) If cultivating what financial assistance they have received from the government agencies;
- v) To examine the effectiveness of laws enacted for the protection of the assignees from dispossession and exploitation;
- vi) Based on the time schedule data, to assess their socio-economic condition after becoming the beneficiaries of the land;
- vii) To locate the bottlenecks which exist in proper implementation and distribution of surplus land; and
- viii) Finally, based on the empirical enquiry, to suggest the ways and means for effective and better utilization of assigned land by the beneficiaries.

We cannot complete this study without your help and cooperation. We have prepared some questions to elicit your opinion. You are requested kindly to reply to our questions freely and frankly. Your reply will be kept strictly secret and it will have its academic value only.

Thank you very much for the cooperation.

(S.N. Mishra)

Schedule I

Name: _____ Occupation: _____
Age : _____ Income : _____
Sex : _____ No. of : _____
Dependants
Date of : _____ Total Land: _____
Assigneeing the Land Assigned

Land - Irrigated/Non Irrigated

Crops in a Year .. One/Two/Three

Signature: _____

1. Do you know about land ceiling?

Yes () No ()

If yes, what is the maximum limit of land to be possessed by a particular landlord? In acres _____

2. Whether the land ceiling is decided on the basis of the quality of land?

Yes () No ()

If yes, give the details of ceiling for each quality of land.

3. What steps government has taken towards acquiring surplus land from the land owners:

1.

2.

3.

4. After acquiring the land how the record of the surplus land is maintained at the block and district headquarters?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5. Do you know that the surplus land acquired under the ceiling act has to be distributed among the landless?

Yes () No ()

If yes, what criteria is adopted for distribution of the land?

6. Whether the surplus land is distributed in a well organized meeting announced in advance by beating of drums?

Yes () No ()

If yes, whether the patta is given on the spot or you are asked to come to the Tehsil/Taluk Office.

a. On the spot

b. Asked to come in the office.

7. How many days notice is given for the meeting of allotment of land?

7A Whether the details of land to be allotted are given out in advance or disclosed in the meeting?

7B What are the priorities in the allotment of surplus land?

8. If you were asked to come in the Block Tehsil/Taluk Office, how many trips you had to make for getting the patta in your hand.

a. Once

b. Twice

c. Thrice

d. Half a dozen time

e. More than a dozen times

9. Whether the land is assigned on the basis of government record or after physical verifications.

a. On the basis of government records

b. On the basis of physical verifications

-: 4 :-

10. Whether the government officials go to the site of the plot and demarcate it, and tell people that this is the land which has been assigned to them or they simply give the plot number?
- a. Demarcate the area
 - b. Locate the plot
 - c. Give the possession
 - d. Give the possession only on paper by indicating the plot number.
11. We would like to put it differently by asking you whether government officials take care of this fact that the assignee of the land is allowed to cultivate it.
- Yes () No ()
12. A very important aspect of assigning ceiling land to beneficiaries is to get the land recorded in the name of the assignee. In other words the completion of Dakhil Kharij. May we know how much time Dakhil Kharij takes?
- a. One month
 - b. Two months
 - c. Four months
 - d. Six months
 - e. A year
 - f. More than a year
13. Off late the government has instructed to the officials to get the names of both the husband and wife recorded in the register. Do you favour this idea?
- Yes () No ()
- If yes, have you got your wife's name recorded? -
- Yes () No ()
- If not, why? ()

14. Whether the government officials insist that wife's name should also be recorded?

Yes () No ()

15. There are different grades of land for example, a, b, c, & d. It is generally believed that people having surplus land surrender only that land which is either third grade or not cultivable.

Do you agree to this view?

Yes () No ()

If yes, have you anything to suggest as how to take different kinds of land proportionately from a person who is coming under the ceiling act.

1.

2.

3.

4.

16. It is also often been reported that the officials who assign the surplus land to the landless do favour only to those who are connected with the high ups in the society by assigning good quality of land. Do you agree to this statement?

Yes () No ()

If yes, have you anything to suggest to remove this favouritism.

17. It is often said that people's participation is the only way to remove this anomaly. Do you agree with this statement?

Yes () No ()

18. As we know, the surplus land is distributed among the ST/SC, landless, and persons falling below the poverty line, and all of them are eligible for the land. Suppose a very limited acres of land is to be distributed and people coming within eligibility list are more in number, what criteria is adopted to select the required number of beneficiaries out of that list.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

19. After allotment of land to the particular beneficiary whether there is any system to follow them up?

Yes ()

No ()

If yes, would you please tell what is the percentage of the Allottees of Ceiling Land who actually cultivate that land?

1.

2.

3.

If there is no follow of action how the socio-economic condition of the assignees could be assessed.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

20. It is often reported that most of the assignees of ceiling land have been dispossessed of the land. Is it a fact?

Yes ()

No ()

If yes, would you please let us know whether the dispossession from land was the result of economic necessity or social and political force.

a. Economic necessity

b. Social and political force.

20. If your reply is in (a) would you please tell the actual nature of the economic pressure under which the assignee was compelled to dispossess the land.

22. Similarly if your reply is in (b) kindly let us know the social and political forces which compelled the assignees not to make the claim of the land.

23. We would like to know whether the government provides protection to the allottees of ceiling land against social and political force.

Yes ()

No ()

If yes, whether the persons belonging to affluent section of the society, who apply force against the assignees of ceiling land, are duly punished.

Yes ()

No ()

If no, why the civil and police bureaucracy do not take any action against them?

24. If an assignee of ceiling land is forcefully asked to dispossess the land or he loses possession of the land out of coercion and he lodges first information timely with the police, whether prompt action is taken by the police to get the land returned to the assignee.

Yes ()

No ()

If no, why the police behaves like a passive expectator?

25. If the assignee of the land at his own sales the land to somebody else, why some restriction is not put on him against sell of the land to others.

26. It has often been reported that assignees of ceiling land are the migrant labourers and/or servants of the original landholders and they are never interested in cultivation. However, being aware of the government facilities they get the land assigned to them and after some time sell it, Is it a fact?

Yes ()

No ()

If yes, what step the government and society takes in this regard or what do you suggest?

27. We feel that some strict rule should be framed checking assignees of ceiling land not to transfer the land to anybody else.

Do you agree to this statement?

Yes () No ()

28. We would like to know whether after assigning the land to the beneficiaries, government makes any effort to make them viable cultivators. Give your reactions.

1.

2.

3.

4.

29. The facilities which you have mentioned are alright but we would like to know whether these facilities are provided in cash or kind and are adequate.

a. Cash

b. Kind

a. Adequate

b. Inadequate

If inadequate, what suggestions would you like to make them adequate?

29. Since this study is related to the economic conditions of assignees of ceiling land, we would like to know your reactions there too. In other words we would like to know whether your economic condition has improved after the allotment of the land to you.

Yes () No ()

If yes in what manner?

- a. Two square meals have been made easily available
- b. Increase in personnel assets
- c. Better and nutritious diet for the whole of the family
- d. A token of saving for unforeseen calamities and for the future
- e. Improvement in clothing and shelter

30. We have known your reactions from the above query. Now we would like to varify the correctness of your statement by putting yet another query. What was your monthly income before being benefited under the scheme (in rupees)?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

31. What is your present monthly income?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

32. What were the food items which you and your family used to take before joining the group of beneficiaries.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

33. What are the present food items?

34. Whether you had any hut or kaccha or pacca house before becoming the beneficiary.

1. Hut

2. Kacha House

3. Pacca House

35. Whether you have made any addition in that after becoming the beneficiary.

Yes ()

No ()

35. Now we would like to know whether in course of improving your economic status ~~have~~ you found any change or improvement in your social status.

Yes ()

No ()

If yes, in what respect?

37. Now we would like to know about your material assets both before and after joining the scheme. Whether you have improved your assets after becoming the assignee of ceiling land.

Yes ()

No ()

If yes, please provide us the following information.

a. How many cattle you had before becoming a beneficiary and after

Before	After
Joining	Joining

1. Goat

2. Sheep

3. Pig

4. Cow

5. Bufallo

6. Bull

7. Hen

8. Donkey

9. Camel

b. The House Hold Items

Before	0	0	After	0	0
Joining	0	0	Joining	0	0

Utensile

- a. Utensils made of mud
- b. Alluminium
- c. Bronze
- d. Brass
- e. Stainless-steel

c. Clothing

Before	0	0	After	0	0
Joining	0	0	Joining	0	0

1. Handloom
Cotton
2. Khadi Cotton
3. Mill Cotton
4. Terecott
5. Silk
6. Woollen

d. Ornaments for female folk

Before	0	0	After	0	0
Joining	0	0	Joining	0	0

1. Silver
2. Golden
3. Lakh
4. Glass Bangles
5. Metal
6. Diamond

e. Bank Balance:

Before	0	0	After	0	0
Joining	0	0	Joining	0	0

1. Saving Accounts
2. Current Accounts
3. Fixed Deposits
4. National Saving Certificates
5. Indira Pattra

f. Items of Comfort:

Before	0	0	After	0	0
Joining	0	0	joining	0	0

Shoes & Chappals

- a. Tyre Chappals
- b. Wooden Chappals
- c. Cloth Shoes
- d. Ruff Shoes and Chappals
- e. Factory made shoes and chappals

g. Furnitures:

Before	0	0	After	0	0
Joining	0	0	Joining	0	0

1. No furniture
2. Cott
3. Deewan
4. Bed
5. Sofa
6. Wooden Almirah

- 7. Towel Stand
- 8. Almirah fixed in the wall
- 9. Steel Almirah
- 10. Dressing Table

38. Whether the persons who have not been benefited under this scheme are better off in your comparison?

Yes () No ()

If yes, what is the reasons please mention:

If not, then you will agree with us that your condition has improved only because of the fact that you have been benefited under the scheme and got an opportunity to improve your social and economic condition.

Yes () No ()

39. Do you find any bottleneck in regard to proper distribution of surplus land to the persons coming under eligibility group?

Yes () No ()

If yes, please list those bottlenecks in order of priority.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

40. Would you like to suggest something to remove these bottlenecks?

Yes ()

No ()

If yes, please put your suggestions in order of priority.

41. It is generally said that the central government as well as state government took several measures to implement land reform measures effectively but all the measures failed badly. Do you agree with this statement?

Yes ()

No ()

If yes, would you please tell us why the past measures have failed.

42. In recent past sincere attempts have been made to take the surplus land from the big farmers but no attempt has been successful and the problem remains the same. Would you like to say if it is correct and if so, why?

-: 17 :-

43. Based on experience of social and political constraints in this regard, would you like to suggest something in regard to effective implementation of land ceiling act?



Evaluation of Economic Condition
of Assignees of Ceiling Land
(Haryana, Karnataka & West Bengal)

S.N. MISHRA

Sponsored By
Department of Rural Development (LR)
Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India

Centre for Rural Development Administration
Indian Institute of Public Administration
Indraprastha Estate, Ring Road,
New Delhi-110002.

Schedule II
(Officials)

The Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Rural Development, Government of India has sponsored the study "Evaluation of Economic Condition of Assignees of Ceiling Land" and the study has to be carried out in the States of Haryana, Karnataka and West Bengal with following objectives:-

- i) To examine the criteria of assigning the land to the landless;
- ii) To ascertain whether the assignees cultivate the land or have been forced to dispossess the land;
- iii) If dispossessed, to ascertain, whether it was a result of force or economic necessities;
- iv) If cultivating what financial assistance they have received from the government agencies;
- v) To examine the effectiveness of laws enacted for the protection of the assignees from dispossession and exploitation;
- vi) Based on the time schedule data, to assess their socio-economic condition after becoming the beneficiaries of the land;
- vii) To locate the bottlenecks which exist in proper implementation and distribution of surplus land; and
- viii) Finally, based on the empirical enquiry, to suggest the ways and means for effective and better utilization of assigned land by the beneficiaries.

We cannot complete this study without your help and cooperation, we have prepared some questions to elicit your opinion. You are requested kindly to reply to our questions freely and frankly. Your reply will be kept strictly secret and it will have its academic value only.

Thank you very much for the cooperation.

(S.N. Mishra)

"Questionnaire - Officials"

Name :

Occupation:

Age :

Income

Sex :

No. of Dependants:

Position held:

Total Experience:

1. Since how long you are in government service?

(In years) ()

2. Since how long you are on the present post?

(In Years) ()

3. Whether you had been in land reform department (revenue department) prior to your present posting?

Yes () No ()

4. Do you feel that the land reform measures taken by government from time to time are sufficient and result oriented?

Yes () No ()

If not, what are the defects in the existing laws?

5. Whether you know about the Bhoodan movement?

Yes () No ()

6. Who introduced it?

7. Whether Bhoodan movement had been successful, so far land reform measures are concerned?

Yes () No ()

If no, why it could not succeed?

8. Whether the legislation regarding ceiling on land had been successful throughout the country?

Yes () No ()

If not, why it did not succeed?

Is it a fact that even though the surplus land-holders part with the surplus land yet it is more on paper than in actual form?

9. Since you are concerned and functioning with land reform department, may we know as to how you know about the land lords who have surplus land?

10. After identifying the farmers having surplus land, what steps your department takes to acquire the surplus land?

11. How records of surplus land are maintained in your department?

12. We would like to know as to what criteria is followed by the government in allotting surplus land to the landless.

13. Whether a camp is organised for identifying the beneficiaries?

Yes ()

No ()

If camp is not organised whether you depend on the list prepared by DRDA on the basis of baseline survey?

Yes ()

No ()

14. Apart from the surplus land the landlords have a big chunk of Benami land in their possession. How the government machinery locates that Benami land.

15. After its location what steps the government takes to get that Benami land under the control of the government.

16. Whether the government machinery faces any resistance from the landlords?

Yes ()

No ()

If yes, please explain the nature of resistance.

17. Apart from Benami land there are some government land known as 'Gair Majurua Aam' and 'Gair Majurua Khas'. These lands are also under the unauthorized possession of landlords or powerful section of the society. Have you any idea of it?

Yes () No ()

If yes, what steps are taken by the government to locate that land and to take under the control of the government. Please give your personal opinion of the problem?

18. It is often said that government officials take money from the powerful and affluent section of the society and allow the Benami and Gair Majurua land continue in their name. Is it a fact?

Yes () No ()

If yes, have you ever faced such problem?

Yes () No ()

If yes, how could you handle that problems?

If no, do you feel that these are the vicious propaganda against the bureaucracy to tarnish its image?

19. Whether after allotting the Patta to the beneficiary some follow up action are taken by the Government?

Yes () No ()

If yes, whether it is constantly watched that the assignees of land are not dispossessed of the land.

If so, how? Please give details.

20. Whether the allotted land is actually measured in presence of the assignee and cultivators of fields adjoining it? If so, what is the time gap between allotment of patta, measurement of land and handing over its physical possessor to the assignee?

Whether mutation of the assigned land is due Suo-moto or on request?

How much time does it take to mutate the assignees' name?

What is the procedure followed in such mutation?

Is the assignee surplus land is really unfit for cultivation? How is it determined?

21. Whether proper agricultural inputs like seeds, fertilizers, pesticides etc., are provided to them?

Yes () No ()

22. Whether loan and subsidy are given to the assignees of land to purchase bullock or He-buffalo for agricultural work.

Yes () No ()

23. Whether the assignees are protected against the high handedness of the dominant section of the society by way of protecting their agricultural field and safe arrival of food grains in their houses after the harvest.

Yes () No ()

24. You know better that the surplus land is assigned to the landless with a hope to improve their economic condition.

Do you feel that their economic condition has actually been improved?

Yes () No ()

If yes, what are the indicators according to you in regard to improvement in their economic condition. Please list them.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

25. Whether the government office at the local level maintains some time schedule data in regard to economic condition of assignees of ceiling land.

Yes () No ()

If yes, do you feel that such data obtained on economic condition of the assignee of ceiling land are full proof and correct?

Yes () No ()

26. It has often been said that the assignees of ceiling land are forcibly dispossessed of the assigned land. Have you any idea of this?

Yes () No ()

If yes, being a government officer whether you have tried to know that whether they dispossess the land out of the economic necessity or as a result of social force.

- a. Economic necessity
- b. Social compulsion/Use of force

If it is the result of force whether government machinery has taken any step to check such activities?

Yes () No ()

If yes, please list the measures taken by the government

1.

2.

3.

4.

27. Do you feel that the measures taken by the government have brought the desired effect?

Yes () No ()

If yes, in what manner? Please explain.

28. If the assignees of the ceiling land are compelled to dispossess off the assigned land out of economic compulsion what step government has taken to check such compulsion. Please list the steps taken by the government.

29. There is a third view of the problem that there are some assignees who do not want to cultivate the land and prefer to dispose it off immediately after getting the land. How far this view is correct in your opinion?

1. To a great extent ()
2. To some extent ()
3. Not at all ()
4. D.K. (Don't know) ()

If it is correct what steps would you suggest for the future so that such people are not benefited under the ceiling law. Please list your suggestions.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

30. Being in government service for such a long period, have you any thing to suggest at your own for effective implementation of ceiling law?

31. Kindly give your personal view about the future of assignees of ceiling land.

32. To our mind the surplus land is distributed among the ST/SC, landless, and persons falling below the poverty line, and all of them are eligible for the land. Suppose a very limited acres of land is to be distributed and people coming within eligibility list are more in number, what criteria is adopted to select the required number of beneficiaries out of that list.

1.

2.

3.

4.